Litchfield Board of Education  
Special Meeting Minutes  
October 13, 2022  

Curriculum, Programs, & Personnel Committee  

I. Call to Order  
The Curriculum, Programs & Personnel Committee meeting held at Litchfield Intermediate School and via teleconference was called to order at 4:48 p.m. by Ms. Reardon.  

Members present: Ms. Reardon, Chair, Ms. Stone, Mr. Malo, and Ms. Murphpy. Also present: Mr. Leone, Superintendent, Mr. Terzian, BOE Chair, Ms. Della Volpe, Assistant Principal, Dr. Pascento, Principal Litchfield High School, Mrs. Smith, K-12 Humanities Coordinator, and Mrs. Hodges, LPS & RSD6 District Liaison.  

II. Approval of Minutes  
a. Review the minutes of the regular meeting of September 8, 2022  
Ms. Stone made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of September 8, 2022. Mr. Terzian seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.  

III. Communications  
None  

IV. Public Participation  
None  

V. Old Business  
a. No Social Media September - Update  
Mr. Leone commented there were 100 participants in No Social Media September between both districts. A $100 Amazon gift card, $100 Book Store gift card, and $100 Restaurant of Your Choice gift card were awarded to three random participant winners.  

VI. New Business  
a. 2022 Legislation Education Summary  
Mr. Leone reviewed the 2022 Legislation Education Summary provided by Shipman & Goodwin. Some topics highlighted in Mr. Leone’s review were Children’s Mental Health Day required by the Governor that May 26 each year will be “Get Outside and Play for Children’s Mental Health Day,” the 9-8-8 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to be printed on student identification cards grade six through twelve, and a change in Special Education Disability Terminology to use “emotional disability” in place of “emotional disturbance.”  

b. Connecticut Approved K-3 Core Comprehensive Reading Curricula/Programs (Curriculum & Screener)  
Mr. Leone opened this topic by providing history that the CSDE was to release requirements for Connecticut Approved K-3 Core Comprehensive Reading Curricula/Programs on July 1, 2022. On September 30, 2022, ninety days later, the CSDE released the state-approved reading programs. To summarize, the CSDE released six approved programs of which only 11 of the 169 districts in the state are currently using.
As a result, CAPSS (Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents) requested a list of the 16 reviewers who completed the rubrics for program selection and the scores of each program.

Mr. Leone added the district, as well as Region 6, does not use any of the approved programs. The district can apply for a waiver and is waiting for a copy of the form from the state. (The original waiver issued has since been pulled back and is being revised) To complicate matters further, the districts are to supply three years of data on the programs currently utilized. As of July 1, 2024, LPS and Region 6 will no longer exist and Region 20 will have no historical data to supply. Mr. Leone has raised this issue with the CSDE and is waiting for further direction.

Mr. Leone added if the Board would like the district to utilize an approved program the cost to implement is approximately $100k, and teachers would need to be trained this year for implementation beginning July 1, 2023. He also commented that no one program will improve student performance. Teachers use an arsenal of tools to improve student reading performance.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Leone addressed Board questions. The district will monitor and continue to evaluate as these matters progress. It may be likely the district will bring this topic to the full Board of Education requesting approval to be out of compliance for one year until Region 20 is established effective July 1, 2024.

c. After School Enrichment
Mr. Leone commented there are currently 125 students participating in the Fall After School Enrichment program and publicly thanked Debbie Hodges for her coordination and oversite of this program. Mr. Terzian added as Board Chair, he receives many compliments on this program from community members.

VII. Future Agenda Items
Future agenda items include Fall Assessment Data.

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 5:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Escobar
Secretary, pro-tem