

POSTPONED UNTIL THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2021

LONG ISLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, January 1, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Remote Meeting

AGENDA

Citizens in the audience are invited to speak during public comment and/or on a topic that is introduced during the course of the meeting under New Business. Each citizen is to be limited to one presentation per citizen, per topic, of not more than three minutes unless the chair gives special permission. Audience participation shall cease on a topic at such time as the chairman calls for board discussion.

Access for the Wednesday, January 6 meeting can be made using this Zoom link:

Topic: LIS Board Meeting

Time: Jan 7, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Barbara Powers is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: LIS Board Meeting

Time: Jan 7, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84036537389>

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Pierre Avignon called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Present were Board Members Sam Whitener and Paul Thornton as well as Lead Teacher Marci Train and Superintendent Barbara Powers.

2. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- December 2, 2020

Mr. Whitener moved approval of the minutes. Mr. Thornton seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Whitener asked, as a parent, if there was any discussion about adding live instructional time to the current half-day schedule. Mrs. Powers explained that there was preliminary discussion about holding two full days of school during the week along with three half days. However, just as she was about to poll parents about this option, Cumberland County was coded YELLOW which indicates community transmission rates are up and hybrid learning plans are required. She said the school will reconsider adding full days of learning once the county returns to GREEN. It is hoped that the children on Great Diamond Island may consider attending for full days to further enhance this year's learning experiences.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Powers reported that she just received notice that the CARES Act II monies will now be available for purchases through December of 2021. This will help us greatly as the Trane installation of ionizing units just occurred today and the upgrade of Smart Board technology likely can't happen until March. The total of \$27,000 has been very helpful with unanticipated costs due to COVID and remote instruction as well as cleaning protocols.

She also noted that the annual Maine State Superintendent's Winter Convocation will be held remotely at the end of next week. She has registered in order to be apprised of budgetary implications for the following year as well as any other issues relevant to LIS.

6. LEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

Mrs. Train shared the news that her students have been studying air quality with Maine Math and Science Alliance support and in partnership with other Maine schools as well as some in Alabama and Mississippi. The installation of the ionizing units will lend an interesting aspect to the study!

In response to a question from Mr. Thornton, she also noted that students are progressing well this year despite the hybrid schedule, noting that on the last administration of the Northwest Educational Assessment (NWEA), all students improved in language usage, reading, while all but one improved in math, though holding his or her own is a noteworthy achievement this year! Mrs. Norton has begun her assessments using NWEAs as well and her results can be reported next month.

Finally, Mrs. Train noted that she will be taking a medical leave for approximately 3-4 weeks beginning Monday, January 11. We all wish her well with surgery that will leave her more comfortable after some time for healing and physical therapy.

7. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

8. NEW BUSINESS

•Superintendent Search – Update and Approval of Contract

Mr. Avignon reported that after interviewing the three finalists for the superintendent position beginning in July of 2021, Mr. Dominic DePatsy, the unanimous choice of the group, has enthusiastically agreed to accept the position. Dom currently serves as the Superintendent of Schools in Saco and is also certified as a Special Education Director should he wish to assume that role as well. All interview team members – Paul Avignon, Sam Whitener, Paul Thornton, Marci Train, Katie Norton, and Barbara Johnson – are very confident that Dom will be a great asset to the school.

Mr. Avignon moved approval of a one-year contract for Mr. DePatsy at an annual salary of \$22,250 for 50 days, which also will include reimbursement for commuting and parking costs as well as personal use of his vehicle for school business. Mrs. Powers indicated that she will reach out to Mr. DePatsy next week and invite him to attend the finance committee budget presentation on January 27 so he can meet the group and also start learning about the school budget. She indicated that she knows her replacement and will gladly assist him with the transition later this spring or as opportunities arise for him. It is hoped a live visit to the island can be made shortly.

•Approval of Proposed 2021-22 School Budget

Mrs. Powers then walked the board through the proposed SY22 budget she developed with a careful eye on respectful requests to island taxpayers, while also preparing one that also will serve the school well. She noted that revenues are anticipated to be slightly lower (+/- \$4000) while she kept school expenses slightly lower as well (+/- \$9000). A copy of the proposed budget is available upon request. It will be presented at a public meeting to the Finance Committee on January 27.

9. MOTION TO ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Thursday, Jan. 27 – Budget presentation to Town Finance Committee

Unless otherwise posted, School Board meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of every month:

February 3
March 3
April 7
May 5
June 9

PLEASE NOTE:

SPECIAL RULEMAKING FOR REMOTE SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS:

§ 403-A. Public proceedings through remote access during declaration of state of emergency due to COVID-19

1. Remote access. Notwithstanding any provision of law or municipal charter provision or ordinance to the contrary, during a state of emergency declared by the Governor in accordance with Title 37-B, second 742 due to the outbreak of COVID-19, a body subject to this subchapter may conduct a public proceeding through telephonic, video, electronic or other similar means of remote participation under the following conditions:

A. Notice of the public proceeding has been given in accordance with second 406, and the notice includes the method by which the public may attend in accordance with paragraph C;

B. Each member of the body who is participating in the public proceeding is able to hear and speak to all the other members during the public proceeding and members of the public attending the public proceeding in the location identified in the notice given pursuant to paragraph A are able to hear all members participating at other locations;

C. The body determines that participation by the public is through telephonic, video, electronic or other similar means of remote participation; and

D. All votes taken during the public proceeding are taken by roll call vote.