

**Lincoln–Sudbury Regional School District  
Minutes  
September 15, 2015**

**Present**

Elena Kleifges, Chair; Kevin Matthews, Vice Chair; Radha Gargeya; Nancy Marshall; Patty Mostue; and Gerald Quirk

**Also Present**

Bella Wong, Superintendent/Principal; Peter Rowe, Interim Director of Finance and Operations; Steve Roderick, TA President; Carly Gordenstein, Student Senate; Brittney McNamara, Metrowest Daily News

**Call to Order**

Elena Kleifges called the meeting to order at 7:33pm.

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion from Patty Mostue, seconded by Nancy Marshall, the Minutes for July 10, 2015, were approved. All were in favor.

**Presentation**

There was no presentation.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Recognitions**

Chris Belmont, Chris Herbert, and Amanda Klein and the First Adventure Volunteers graciously welcomed in 9<sup>th</sup> grade students on their first day of school.

Ken Kimura and Alison Richardson welcomed the new hires to LS on August 27<sup>th</sup>. LS welcomed 7 new members to Faculty and Staff: Kristen Ehrler (Math), Kelly Gaudreau (English), Shari Idelson,(Math), Tom Lewis (Math), Carmen Rodi (METCO), Dot Samsi (French), and Renee Vasquez–Solis (Counseling).

The following teachers received a SERF Ace Award at the end of the year: Tracy Burke, Laura Cole, Jen Garfield, Chris Herbert, Emily Hopwood, Phil James, Elisa Mills, and Kathleen Thompson

LS Students travelled to the White House in Washington, D.C. on July 9<sup>th</sup> with Eleanor Burke to receive the “President’s Environmental Youth Award,” given jointly by the White House Council on Environmental

Quality and the US Environmental Protection Agency. The award recognizes outstanding student leaders in environmental stewardship. Savannah Snell, Michael Bader, Brianna Bisson, Grace Chin, and Clara Cousins – were recognized for their work to bring awareness of climate change to the 1,600 students at their school, and to promote the use of reusable water bottles and recycling.

During Back to School night tomorrow the following musicians will be playing within the building: Violin Ensemble – Melody Phu and Anthony Moseman; Piano – Max Zuo, Veronica Guo; Piano and Cello – Rachel Yang and Ariel Joiner; and Piano and drums – Caleb Rosenthal and Bryan Lynch.

Ms. Wong thanked the LSPO and Jodie Greenhouse for providing dinner tomorrow night for faculty and staff before Back to School Night begins. They will generously be feeding 150 Faculty and Staff at a delicious repast donated by members of the LSPO.

Student leaders representing the MVP team, the Intersections Club and Peer Mediators presented at the initial assemblies to all students the first days of school. Thank you to students: Sarah Kimball, Adam Thompson, Brendan Ross, Haley Walker, Jack Doherty, Olivia Gainer, Meghan Chunias, Becca Gorman, Mike Kinney, Troy Shallow, Dan Ryan, Sam Granahan, Mikela Nims, Evan Driscoll, Azalyn Patterson, Shavon McBynum, Kahmya Moss, Naz Jean, and Sam Hetterich.

### **Student Senate Report**

Carly Gordenstein, Student Senate President, reported that the first meeting was held on Wednesday, September 9, 2015. Preparations for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade Senate elections are underway. The Student Senate is also exploring the possibility of holding a mock presidential debate and contacting the League of Women Voters regarding voter registration for students.

### **Teachers' Association Report**

Steve Roderick, TA President, reported that there are four new Executive TA members: Steve Roderick, TA President; Allison Richardson, Vice-President; Erica Wilsen, Secretary; and Caroline Singler, Treasurer. The goal of the Teachers' Association for the current school year is to increase teacher involvement and attendance at TA meetings.

### **Chairman's Report**

Elena Kleifges reported on the opening day for the 2015–2016 school year and was struck by the great energy in the auditorium as teachers were welcomed back by Bella Wong.

Ms. Kleifges has been in contact with Sudbury Public and Lincoln Public School Committee Chairs and Superintendents to prepare for a joint meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm in the LS Library. The evening will provide a forum for the public to discuss matters of interest. State Senators Jamie Eldridge and Michael Barrett, Representative Carmen Gentile and representatives from SunEdison will visit LS for a ribbon cutting for the Solar Canopy Project.

### **Liaison Reports**

Radha Gargeya reported that the Sudbury Budget Strategies Task Force had met on August 4 and September 1<sup>st</sup>. Another meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2015. The task force's purpose is to plan a different approach to determining the FY17 budget. A series of meetings will work to prioritize the needs of each cost center. An outreach to other regional school districts to assess best practices has commenced.

### **Superintendent Report**

Bella Wong reported on summer activities at LS. The Solar Canopy was finished completely over the summer. On July 6<sup>th</sup>, Google Apps and Gmail replaced the First Class email system. Faculty requested 492 days for ED&E: 180 days involved interdisciplinary work; 100 days to learn Google Apps; 50 days involved initiatives such as closing achievement gaps, social/emotional needs, and access to excellence and equity.

The school goal for 2015–2016 will be to focus on the Core Value of cultivating community. LS will work to instill in students an awareness of their place in the world.

The Global Scholars Program has continued to grow and refine its purpose and requirements. Opportunities for student travel are open to all students. There are over 70 students who have joined the Global Scholars Program that is designed for 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students. Six students from LS travelled to Davos, Switzerland to attend the Global Student Summit in June. Twenty-nine LS students have enrolled in the Cold War/World War II trip to Berlin, Krakow, Prague and Budapest. They will travel with 5 chaperones and visit migrant camps, a concentration camp, salt mines in Krakow, as well as other historical sites.

Additional travel opportunities during the 2015–2016 school year include the Spanish and German exchange programs, a trip to Rome for students studying Latin; a trip to visit the LS Memorial School in Cambodia as well as a Habitat for Humanity trip during February vacation, and a trip to Japan during April vacation. The 2016 Student Summit will take place in

The Hague and the theme will be exploring human rights. Students from Framingham, Wellesley, Weston, Maynard and Westford Academy will combine to form a group travelling to this summit. Efforts to acquire scholarship funds continue in order to defray the cost of trips for students.

### **Director of Finance and Operations Report**

Peter Rowe has been working to close out FY15 and initiate FY16. Actual expenditures for FY15 have resulted in \$205,000 unexpended monies. The savings will be added to the Excess and Deficiency Fund and bring it to within 70% of maximum. Work on FY17 will begin soon.

For FY16, the new fire alarm panel system is in place. The Building and Grounds department has been active during the summer cleaning and repairing the building. Mr. Rowe has been working with Aramark Food Service to maximize the quality of food and the revenue it produces.

### **Information and Discussion**

The results of the Superintendent/Principal's evaluation were discussed. In all areas, Ms. Wong was judged proficient or exemplary. Areas of particular strength are: fostering strong ties within the community, excellent work in developing the FY16 budget and communicating the School District's needs to the communities of Lincoln and Sudbury; exemplary general management skills. Ms. Wong was praised for her attention to education, leadership, mission and vision.

Ms. Wong stated her appreciation of the thoughtful and thorough feedback as well as for the support of the School Committee and LS faculty and staff. She expressed her appreciation for the level of engagement she has encountered in meetings with the parents of both communities.

### **Action Items**

**VOTE:** As each member district executing the EDCO Collaborative Board agreement shall annually appoint the Superintendent of Schools or one School Committee Member as a voting member of the Collaborative Board, Gerald Quirk moved to appoint Bella Wong as the voting member for Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School. Radha Gargeya seconded the motion and all were in favor.

### **Other Business**

There was no other business.

**Calendar**

Back to School Night  
Yom Kippur  
LS School Committee

September 16, 2015  
September 23  
September 29, 2015

**Adjourn**

Elena Kleifges requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nancy Marshall moved to adjourn the meeting and Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Francy Zingale