

**LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

**7:00 p.m.
Room**

Superintendent's Conference

Call to Order

Executive Session

For approving and reviewing executive session minutes related to collective bargaining and to discuss collective bargaining strategy because to do so in public session would be detrimental to the District's bargaining position

**7:30 p.m. Public Session
Room B**

L-S Conference

Present

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

Also Present

Bella Wong, Superintendent/Principal; Peter Rowe, Interim Director Finance and Operations; Aida Ramos, Director Student Services; Steve Roderick, TA President; Carly Gordenstein, Student Senate Representative; Mr. and Mrs. Lee, Andrew Lee; Mrs. Gough, Alex Gough; Kathy Gorman.

Call to Order

Elena Kleifges called the meeting to order at 7:35pm

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes for October 13, 2015 was postponed to the November 10, 2015 meeting

Presentation

The Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents' Awards were presented to Alex Gough and Andrew Lee by Superintendent/Principal Bella Wong. The award recognizes their extraordinary academic achievements.

Aida Ramos, Director of Student Services, presented current data on IEP, 504, and Out of District students. There are currently 209 students in the district on an Individualized Educational Plan. The process for identifying and supporting students has been streamlined with protocols set in place to support these students. It was noted that there is an upward trend in the number of students with disabilities in the state of Massachusetts.

Conversely, there is a slight reduction in the number of students on 504 plans. The process for determining eligibility has been streamlined with a set protocol to follow. Eligibility is re-determined every three years. L-S prides itself on having students as main-streamed as possible. The majority of students on a 504 plan do not require special education services but rather accommodations such as extended time or a shorter school day. Students can take a 504 document to college. An Individualized Educational Plan ends with high school graduation.

L-S has 62 students with out-of-district placements and there has been an upward trend in this number.

L-S has a consistent and well-developed protocol and plan for students with concussions. The Beacon Program is grant-funded through next year by the Metrowest Health organization. Last year 29 students benefitted from the program: 1/3 of the students for medical reasons and 2/3 for emotional reasons.

Another project whose development is now complete is the Guidance Curriculum. This school year, the 10th grade seminar will begin. The guidance seminars for all grades are very well developed and organized.

One of the recommendations of the Walker Report was to develop a mission statement for all special education programs. At this point, the mission statements are in the editing phase. Another recommendation is that there be professional development offered to staff regarding positive interventions. During the summer of 2015, two days of training in positive interventions were offered to the L-S faculty. Additionally, training in Sheltered English Immersion has been offered last year and this year at no cost to the teachers other than time. The program offers strategies for teaching students for whom English is not the primary language; however, the teaching strategies are valuable for all students. An ongoing program in the Special Education Department is developing a protocol for positive interventions involving both the general education and the special education teachers.

The last recommendation from the report that the department is working on involves the LINK program, designed to better facilitate working with students on the autism spectrum.

Aida closed by thanking her staff who were able to manage collectively the department's work efficiently and competently during Aida's surgery last spring.

Public Comment

Kathy Gorman, LS parent, brought attention to the delay in announcing Cum Laude candidates for 2015–2016. The Superintendent/Principal will look into the matter.

Recognitions

The German exchange students arrived on October 19th. LS is hosting 18 students and 2 teachers from our German partner school, the Gymnasium Vilshofen, for their annual 3 week visit. Monday was their first day of school here, and they will be with us until November 6, with a few days set aside for field trips. Our guests have brought back glowing reports of everything they have experienced at LS thus far! The German students and their LS hosts will celebrate Thanksgiving on October 22nd.

The first level of the 52nd annual Math Olympiad was administered to about 50 LS students on October 22nd in the cafeteria by the Massachusetts Association of Mathematics Leagues and sponsored by The Actuaries' Club of Boston. Students who finish in the top 100 in the state will travel to local insurance sites to take a second level and typically have lunch with actuaries. Last year (2014) about 2300 students from 64 different schools took the first level exam. LS had 2 students who qualified for the second level.

National Merit Semi-finalists for 2016 are: Isabel Anderson, Sarena Ho and Andrew Lee. These academically talented students will continue in the competition to become Finalists and eligible for college scholarships from the National Merit Scholarship Program and 440 businesses and universities.

The Annual Faculty Variety Show was held on Friday, October 23rd in the LS Auditorium. Our faculty is remarkably talented! Great poems, singing, strumming, drumming, tinkling (the ivories), dancing, videography, and all around strutting! Thank you to MCs Mark Mason and Amanda Klein. There were outstanding musical performances by Ken Kimura, Carly Evans, Nicole Frattaroli and Jen DuBois among others. Great comedic turns by David Bloom and

others in the Senior Dress-up Day skit, and by new English teacher Kelly Gaudreau. Students Maddie Feinberg, Maddie McNamara, Lexi Fee, Ashley Faecher, and Annice Kim (Class of 2016) performed a dance number as did Janaii Valentine, Suley Oller-Guerrero, Karee Horton, Damoni Cooper, Shalysha Marks and Savannah Nesbitt of the Class of 2019. The funds raised will be contributed to the LSTA Scholarship Fund and to FELS.

The Fall Musical this year is *Wonderful Town* based on a book by Joseph Fields and Jerome Chodorov with music by Leonard Bernstein. The play is about two sisters pursuing their dreams while living in a basement apartment in New York City. The drama and music departments have been practicing for performances scheduled for November 18-21 in the LS Auditorium.

Nancy Errico's last day will be Friday, October 30th. Please join us for a "dance out" with a live band – a riff on the traditional "clap out". It will take place in the cafeteria on Friday at 1:30pm. She has worked at LS for 34 years, first as a Math Teacher and most recently as the Educational Technology Coordinator and Instructional Technology Specialist. Nancy was instrumental in researching, designing and coordinating our recent technology upgrade. She has been a steady and industrious supporter of L-S whom we will definitely miss!

Senior Dress-Up Day is October 30th, Friday. The schedule will be a Wednesday schedule. ACA block will be devoted to Senior skits/performances. The Housemasters have been busy vetting proposed performances and the senior class has had the benefit of words of wisdom from the Mentors in Violence Prevention so that costumes and behaviors will be sensitive to all members of the LS community.

The Intersections Group, advised by Brendan Wimberly, is hosting the annual intersections "Mix It Up" lunch this week. Tables are set aside in the cafeteria for students to meet one another and talk with students they have not conversed with before.

Student Representative Report

Carly Gordenstein reported that the 9th Grade elections would be held on October 28, 2015. There were 20 candidates from whom 10 will be elected. The Student Senate is working with MVP and SADD to generate school spirit.

Teacher's Association Report

Steve Roderick reported that the Faculty Talent Show had been a great success with proceeds to benefit FELS and the Paul Vernon Scholarship. Faculty felt well prepared for Senior Dress Up Day in terms of expected student behavior. Mr. Roderick commended Andrew Lee and Alexander Gough who had been presented with the Superintendent's Award. He also expressed his appreciation of Anne O'Reilly and Nancy Errico who retired from LS in October.

Chairman's Report

Elena Kleifges reported on the Meeting of L-S, Sudbury Public and Lincoln Public Schools'

Superintendents and School Committees. The purpose of the meeting was to identify areas of interest to the three school systems that could be improved through collaborative efforts. The School Committee Chairs of the three school systems will meet to discuss topics brought forward by the public forum.

Mrs. Kleifges stated that the Open Meeting Law violation and fine of \$1,000 had been rescinded and that the Attorney General's office modified the previous finding and now found that no Open Meeting Law had been intentionally violated by the School Committee and that the office withdrew their earlier referral of this matter and considered the matter closed.

Liaison Reports

The Budget Strategy Task Force met on Thursday, October 23, 2015. Each cost center was asked to provide a level service budget that would include all known expenses such as salaries, benefits, transportation and utilities to the task force. In addition, budgets exceeding a 2.6% increase should note where reductions could be made.

Superintendent/Principal's Report

Bella Wong reported the EDCO and CASE Collaboratives were projecting surpluses for this budget year. The programs offered have been well attended and the quality of the programming is improved and more cost efficient than private placements. Although the collaboratives are non-profits, they are permitted to carry cash reserves forward.

The results for the Metrowest Heath Survey will be presented at 7:30pm on October 28, 2015 in the cafeteria. The School Council will be attending the event. Students will be presenting on specific topics. Ms. Wong encouraged parents to attend the meeting.

The Towns of Lincoln and Sudbury have offered their guidelines for Budget FY17. Lincoln suggested 2.5% above the sum voted at Lincoln Town Meeting minus pensions and benefits. Sudbury recommended 2.6%. The capital budget is being assembled and will include a request to both towns' Capital Committees for upgraded security cameras for the school and refurbishing the orchestra pit coverings in the auditorium. Ms. Wong believes that security cameras are a priority as the current cameras are beginning to fail and must be

replaced. Kevin Rossley has worked with vendors to determine best pricing and options. Ms. Wong has sought the opinion of Building and Grounds, Housemasters, and Campus Aides to determine vulnerable spots in the building. Their recommendations have been shared with the Safety Council and presented to the Faculty Advisory Council as well as the faculty members who supported the proposed security upgrade. Additional cameras would be placed to view exterior doors, outside the locker rooms, attached to the roof and within the solar canopy, and near emergency exits for the back of the auditorium, fitness center and gyms. The proposal has been shared with Chiefs Nix and Kennedy. Signage will indicate where there is surveillance.

Director of Finance and Operations' Report

Peter Rowe gave a brief overview of enrollment projections. There will be a gradual decline in student enrollment over the next several years of about 200 students. The METCO population remains stable. Patty Mostue pointed out that 33% of METCO students at LSRHS have attended neither Lincoln nor Sudbury Public Schools.

Based on a renegotiation, a three-year reimbursement to staff who faced high co-pays for medical insurance has resulted in a balance of \$8,500.

VOTE: Radha Gargeya moved that Peter Rowe be authorized to be the LS School Committee representative to meet with the Teachers' Association to determine the disbursal of the remaining money. The motion was seconded by Patty Mostue. All were in favor.

Information & Discussion

Updated Open Meeting Law Policies and Related Procedure, 1st Reading. Radha Gargeya suggesting that notification of School Committee meetings with the Town Clerks of Lincoln and Sudbury should be removed after consulting with the District Clerk about the latest procedures. The OPEB Trust Committee Members appointment schedule must be incorporated. The names of Director of Finance and Assistant Treasurer must be changed. Nancy Marshall recommended that all edits be submitted before the second reading. Procedures for handling Open Meeting Law complaints must be outlined.

Patty Mostue requested an extra week to review School Committee goals and that the Committee would vote at the next meeting.

Action Items

Vouchers #1013, 1014, and 1015 were signed.
Payroll 10/15/15 was signed

Other Business

There was no other business.

Calendar of School Events

Senior Dress Up Day	October 30, 2015
End Quarter 1	November 6, 2015
LS School Committee	November 10, 2015
Veteran's Day	November 11, 2015
LS School Committee	November 24, 2015

Adjourn

Nancy Marshall moved to adjourn the meeting and Radha Gargeya seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Francy Zingale