

DRAFT
LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Tuesday, March 22 2016

7:30 p.m.
B

L-S Conference Room

Present

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

Also Present

Bella Wong, Superintendent/Principal; Peter Rowe, Interim Director of Finance and Operations; Carly Gordenstein, Student Representative; Steve Roderick, TA President; Shawn Lingley, History Teacher; and Phil James, Department Coordinator for History.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:33pm.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion from Patty Mostue, the Minutes for March 8, 2016 were approved subject to edits being made. The motion was seconded by Kevin Matthews. There was no discussion. All were in favor.

Presentation

History Department Coordinator Phil James and History Teacher Shawn Lingley presented an overview of the Department of History and Social Sciences. The department's mission is to teach students the skills they will need to flourish in college and as thoughtful adults in a democratic society. Faculty in the History Department endeavor to foster close interactions with students as well as engage with them outside the classroom. Primary skills emphasized are: analytical writing in the form of essays and research papers; research (locating and evaluating sources); critical reading of primary and secondary sources; oral presentations and debates; and critical thinking.

Mr. James and Mr. Lingley provided a synopsis of the abundant and varied history courses offered at L-S. Patty Mostue inquired about the probability of an MCAS test for History. Mr. James responded that there were no imminent

plans for such a test and expressed doubt that such a test would successfully test student knowledge of history.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Recognitions

On Friday, March 11, senior Nick Smith was crowned Mr. L-S. He performed an adaption of "Gravity" by Sara Bareilles. Sam Halpern won Mr. Congeniality for having fundraised the most for his selected charity: The National Alliance on Mental Illness. In total, the contestants raised \$2,455.70. A total of 14 different charities will receive a contribution as a result of the candidates' efforts. Much recognition is owed to seniors Lizzie Alwan, Katie Pinto, and Sara Kimble, all of whom put in extraordinary effort into ensuring an orderly that the contestants were rehearsed and prepared for the competition. Faculty Advisors for the Class of 2016 are Jenn Debois, Chris Stanek, and Jason Medeiros. The other contestants for the title were Kyle Burke, Ben Chunias, Elson DeSouza Jr., Alex Faheem, Matt Flanagan, Bobby Hurstak, Nazarea Jean, Seth Joachim, Peter Jubenville, Guy Katz, Patrick McGrath, Rdhra Raveendran, Alex and Nathan Ryder (competing as a team) and Jason Schwartz.

The Consulate General of Spain in Boston noted in recent remarks that the 13th Declamation Contest in different World Languages took place at LS on March 10th. Unamuno and Lorca have been two of the chosen writers. The Consulate General of Spain congratulated all the students who made these and other authors more familiar to the audience.

The Math Department held Pi Day on Monday, March 14th. There were many tempting delights for all faculty and staff to enjoy. It enhanced our appreciation of mathematical properties with infinite non-repeating decimal places!

The LS Girls 4x800 m relay team ran 9:05.95 at Nationals, setting a school record and coming in 4th in the country. Please congratulate Katherine Malone, Nicole Kerrigan, Alexa Babick and Ariel Keklak. The LS Girls Distance Medley relay team ran 11:42.03 setting a new school, state and New England record and coming in 3rd in the country. Congratulations to Milly O'Brien, Alexa Babick, Katherine Malone and Ariel Keklak.

Aida Ramos reports that an SEI 15-hour training will be offerered this summer for teachers. Teachers were reminded that anyone needing to relicense or move from preliminary to initial, initial to professional, etc. after July 1st 2016 will need to have at least 15 hours of training in SEI and Special Education. Thanks to Aida for organizing this for LS teachers!

Advisors Mary Brunson and BJ Pegram reported that on Saturday, March 19th, 14 tenth and eleventh grade students participated in the Regional Science Olympiad Competition at Framingham State University. These 14 students worked in pairs to answer questions and perform lab activities in 16 different events throughout the day. There was a huge range of events, including geologic mapping, protein folding, circuits, fossils, and forensics to name a few. The students have been studying, practicing, and gathering materials all year for this. In addition, 9 students built devices ahead of time to take to the event - including a bridge, an electric vehicle, a wind-powered propeller, a miniature airplane, a clock, and a device to launch ping-pong balls across the room.

LS did well, placing 9th overall out of 53 teams. Nearly all of the students placed in the top ten in at least one of their events, some earned ribbons, and a few even earned a medal for placing in the top 3 (including Daniel Stutman's 1st place victory in the air trajectory building event and Melody Phu and Rohini Guin's placing 2nd in Dynamic Planet). Student participants: Matt Bayer, Chris Beeler, Bryce Mashimo, Rachel Pellegrino, Hannah Quirk, Julia Solawey, Daniel Stutman, Jonathan Vale, Fady Gemayel, Rohini Guin, Maddison Manente, Melody Phu, Isabel Quintus-Bosz, Mahek Ramani and Michael Zhang.

Congratulations to the LS Boys Hockey team for a tremendous season. They excelled on the ice, reaching the state finals for the first time in school history. The game was held Sunday, March 20th at the TD Garden. It was a great game that ended in defeat (3/1 Medfield). In addition, the team raised over \$20,000 for the Milley Foundation through Warriors 4 Warriors. We are extraordinarily proud of the boys, coaches and parents. Team representatives were invited to the MIAA Ice Hockey Breakfast of Champions on Friday, March 18, at 9:30 am at TD Garden, Legends Restaurant.

Students Adam Thompson, Shea Justice Jr., Azalyn Patterson, Katie Rautiola, and Naz Jean visited the State House Tuesday, March 15th, as part of an annual METCO tradition. The students met with legislative aides and they all spoke eloquently about the importance of diversity and METCO in their lives growing up in Lincoln/Sudbury schools. In addition to meeting with legislative aides, the students also had the opportunity to meet and talk with City Councilor Tito Jackson about the recent budget cuts and Boston Public Schools' student protest. Carmen Rodi and Steve Desrosiers accompanied the students to the State House.

Adam Thompson is a finalist in the Princeton Prize in Race Relations Scholarship. Each year Princeton offers a scholarship of \$1,000 to a high school student in Massachusetts who has most improved race relations in their school or community.

Many thanks to the Building & Grounds team for expeditiously clearing snow from the parking lots and walkways on Monday, March 21.

The *Gearticks*, a Lincoln Robotics Team through the Lincoln Park and Recreation department, recently attended the East Super-Regional Competition in Scranton, PA. The team won the Connect Award and came in third place in the Inspire category. Their next event will be World Championships in St. Louis, MO in late April (for the 5th time in 6 years). In the past three years, *Gearticks* have won 1st place, 2nd place, and 3rd place among teams in the East. L-S students Catherine Appleby, Amelia Brown, Andrew Lee, Evan Lee, Dante Muzilla, Abbey Payne, Clare Telfer, Calvin Terpstra, Irene Terpstra, and Howie Tsang are members of the Gearticks.

The 9th grade Diversity Workshop was held on Friday, March 18th. Many people were involved in making this event happen from its conception to its successful completion. There have been numerous positive accounts of the workshop. The messages conveyed to the Class of 2019 about the importance of understanding and respecting differences are important and timely. We recall that the idea for this training was born in the student discussions following the events following Ferguson and the December 2014 protest at LS.

Lori Hodin did a terrific job of organizing, planning and executing the workshop. She was supported in developing the curriculum and planning the logistics by Susan Shields, Melisa Shen, Ariel Cox, Tracey Burke, JK Park, Jake Fauver and Jen Garfield. Ms. Wong thanked the 35 faculty and staff members who put in hours planning, being trained, training students and helping to facilitate small groups of students this morning as well as a very impressive diverse group of 67 11th and 12th grade student leaders who also facilitated the groups of 9th graders.

Student Senate Report

Carly Gordenstein reported that the Student Senate supported the diversity workshop and that the Student Senate representatives have attended more METCO events. The Student Senate plans to make an effort to support diversity within L-S.

Teacher's Association Report

Steve Roderick suggested dates for the School Committee to attend classes at L-S. School Committee members will attend morning classes followed by lunch with Academic Departments of their choice. April 25th was chosen for the LS Teachers' Association dinner with the School Committee.

Chairman's Report

The Legislators will be attending the April 26th School Committee meeting. Ms. Kleifges requested that the School Committee members consider topics for discussion for that evening. The Tri-School Committee will hold an open meeting on May 17th in the LS Library to inform the public on topics of interest such as: transition from 8th grade to high school and school start times. Ms.

Kleifges reported that the Lincoln Town Meeting approved the FY17 Budget, OPEB contribution, and capital requests made by L-S.

Liaison Reports

There were no liaison reports.

Superintendent/Principal's Report

Ms. Wong informed the School Committee members that she had attended the 11th Annual Women's Leadership Conference in Boston on March 15th with Housemasters Sandy Crawford and Leslie Patterson. State Senator and Speaker Pro-Tem Trisha Hadad addressed the conference.

Professional Development workshops within LS have included advice on writing college recommendations; strategies for working with ELL students; awareness of needs of METCO students; Google classes; the purpose of homework and cultivating a teacher's voice.

The screening of the film **Most Likely to Succeed** on March 9th was attended by approximately 200 people from the L-S community as well as residents of Concord, Carlisle and Maynard. Ms. Wong expressed her gratitude to Andy Payne and Jeff Bennett for supporting the screening. David Stephens, the architect for High Tech High, was present to address the attendees.

Ms. Wong is preparing a note to LS families regarding student travel opportunities for 2016-2017. Travel opportunities include East Africa; Model UN in Berlin; service trip to the Dominican Republic; the French Student Exchange; Japan; a student exchange with Poland involving student homestays; and a trip to a Blackfoot Native Reservation in Montana to name just a few. Ms. Wong is currently writing grants for financial aid for student travel.

Director of Finance and Operations' Report

There was no Director of Finance and Operations' Report.

Information & Discussion

There were no subjects for information and discussion.

Action Items

Vouchers #1035, 1036, 1037, and 1038 were signed as was the Payroll for 3/15/16.

A vote was requested to approve an amendment to the FY16 Budget to appropriate funds from the Excess and Deficiency Fund to the Stabilization Fund for capital projects. Bella Wong reported that the laws and regulations governing regional school districts supported the transfer of funds from the Excess and Deficiency Fund to Stabilization Funds. The Stabilization Fund was established for the purpose of capital planning. Per an advisory from the Mass. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, interpreting G.L. c.71, s 16 G1/2, the use of a Stabilization Fund should be based on the district's long term capital plan. The Lincoln-Sudbury Regional School District's long term capital plan includes estimated costs for the replacement/reconstruction of the facility's turf fields in FY18 at a cost of \$1,280,000. Given the significant costs of these requests and the other competing requests for capital funding within the Sudbury and Lincoln communities, the utilization of E&D funds to increase resources in the existing Stabilization Fund is prudent. The recommendation is to transfer \$600,000 to the Stabilization Fund for the purpose of committing these funds for the anticipated capital needs.

VOTE: Radha Gargeya moved “to amend the FY2016 Budget by appropriating the amount of \$600,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund and moving it into the Stabilization Fund for the purposes permitted therein.” Nancy Marshall seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All members were present. All members were in favor.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Calendar of School Events

	ELA MCAS	March 22–24, 2016
	Good Friday	March 25,
2016	Jazz Concert	March 31, 2016
	LS School Committee	April 5, 2016
	3 rd Quarter ends	April 7, 2016
	Patriot's Day	April 18, 2016
	Spring Recess	April 19–22, 2016
	LS School Committee	April 26, 2016

Adjourn

On a motion from Gerald Quirk, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 pm. Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Francy Zingale

