

LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, April 25, 2017

7:30pm

Conference Room B, LSRHS

Present

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

Also Present

Bella Wong, Superintendent/Principal; Sherry Kersey, Director of Finance and Operations; Caroline Singler, TA; Virginia Blake, Director of Curriculum; Donna Cakert, Registrar; Emily Hopwood, Guidance Counselor.

Call to Order

Elena Kleifges called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion from Gerald Quirk and seconded by Radha Gargeya, the Minutes for March 28, 2017 were approved. There was no discussion. All were in favor.

On a motion from Patty Mostue and seconded by Kevin Matthews, the Minutes for April 4th, 2017, were approved. There was no discussion and all were in favor.

Presentation

Virginia Blake, Director of Curriculum, and Emily Hopwood, Co-Chair of Counseling Department, presented the new LS document viewer and school profile to the School Committee. As part of a long discussion with the academic departments on how to best convey aspects of academic life at LS to colleges, as well as discussions with college admissions officers, Ginny Blake and Emily Hopwood streamlined how information is shared with outside stakeholders. Information on the proposed school profile will enable the counselors to write more about the student and less about the nature of courses at LS.

LS Departments have worked to rename leveled courses for improved clarity and consistency across departments. The new school profile will convey the unique philosophy of LSRHS.

The second presentation, by LS Registrar Donna Cakert and Virginia Blake, was about the new LS Document Viewer which has been reworked to give LS parents access to institutional documents such as schedules, report cards, and transcripts. When parents log on, they will be able to access information such as this week's schedule, class schedules, student biographical information, grades by year, credits/grades by department, PDF's of report cards, transcripts, warnings, discipline,

recommendations/requests, and ability to change passwords. This portal will provide a view-only, parents will not be able to alter information presented. Bella Wong complimented Donna Cakert, Virginia Blake and Seth Weiss on their work on this project.

Gerald Quirk reported on the LS OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Trust which includes the cost of future medical benefits and retirement benefits to former LS employees. All public institutions are required to conduct actuarial studies and set aside funds to cover future OPEB costs. The LS OPEB Trust is governed by a faculty member, staff member, LS business officer, three LS School Committee members, and two retirees. The actuarial total cost of the projected OPEB liability is 24.7 million dollars, based on assumptions regarding employee participation rates, retirement age, mortality rates, and discount rates. LS has currently set aside \$700,000 in the OPEB Trust.

Public Comment

Tricia McCabe, LS parent, suggested that LS recognize students entering the military academies upon graduation.

Recognitions

The FELS Grant recipients are Nicole Frattaroli, Samantha Parker, Xin Dong, Thomas Grandprey, Nancy Dion and Elizabeth Carver. Our thanks to FELS!

On April 9th, the LS Chess Team came in first at the State Team Chess Championship, known as the Hurvitz Cup. There were 12 teams with a total of 46 players at the championship. LS Team members were Michael Isakov, Eric Feng, Sandeep Shankar, Jesse Sun, and Greer Fried. The team won all four of its matches to finish well ahead of the competition.

Six LS Students travelled to Paris during the April vacation with French teacher Dot Samsi. The students visited Paris and Versailles; Provence including the Camargue salt marshes and Avignon and the Pont du Gard in Nimes; the Cote d'Azur including St Paul de Vence, Eze and Nice. In Nice, the students learned to play Boules Lyonnaises, a local variant of Petanque. Elizabeth Pier, Nicole Parmenter, Kathleen Rice, Kate Shannon, Jane Petraglia and Morgan Thomas enjoyed their whirlwind tour of France.

The One Love Concert to celebrate METCO's 50th anniversary was held on Thursday, April 13th in the Band Room. Musicians from Berklee School of Music performed and spoke about their approach to jazz music to students in the LS band and jazz groups as well as other interested students. Thank you to Steve Derosiers for organizing this event.

Dr. Shaffiq Jaffer spoke to LS students on "The Challenges of Achieving a High Quality of Life yet Managing to Minimize Our Impact on the World's Ecosystem." Dr. Jaffer is

Vice President of Corporate Science and Technology at TOTAL SA (4th largest international oil and gas company) and an Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto. Environmental Science teacher Chris Collins organized the event.

The LS Outreach club organized a showing of “Moana” for incoming 9th grade students from Sudbury and Lincoln on April 13th. Between 45 to 50 students attended the event and enjoyed snacks and pizza provided by the LS Outreach Club. After the movie showing, many 9th graders approached our student leaders, who are predominantly 11th graders, with excellent questions about life at LS, the culture and discipline here, courses, and even the facilities and building itself. Both 9th graders and the Outreach leaders expressed interest in holding another movie night in the not-so-distant future. The adult chaperones were: Chris Herbert, Kate Berry (Grant) and Jen Cameron.

This spring, the LSB Players are trying their hand at theatre for young audiences (TYA) with two updated versions of the classic fables, ***The Ants and the Grasshoppers*** and ***The Tortoise and the Hare***. These shows are funny, energetic, and interactive and perfect for all ages. There will be arts and craft activities in the lobby area before the show and during intermission and exciting and interactive lobby displays. All of these lobby activities are being created and executed by the Drama in Production class. Performance dates are Friday April 28 and Saturday April 29 at 6pm, and Saturday April 29 and Sunday April 30 at 2pm. The Saturday matinee will be a sensory friendly performance. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$8 for students, \$5 for children 5 and under.

The students who will be onstage and off are:

BETA.....	Olivia Bodley
THETA.....	Charlotte Dezen
ZETA.....	Casey Monteiro
PI.....	Catriona Morris
MU.....	Molly Carlough
EPSILON.....	Andrew LaScaleia
HOP.....	Matt Milton
SKIP.....	Caleb Martin-Rosenthal
JUMP.....	Jack Troiano
OMICRON.....	Emmett Alkasab
ALEXANDRA.....	Hannah Quirk
ALPHA.....	Declan Morris
OMEGA.....	Devon Silsby
EDDIE.....	Adam Rose
THE STORM.....	Jacob Anthony
Grace Glionna	
Haley Lopes	
Emmy Schmelter	
Elizabeth Strileckis	
Matt Young	

The League of Women Voters will be at school on April 26th to assist students in registering to vote before and after the mandatory senior meeting.

This evening, April 25th, Senior parents will be meeting with Leslie Patterson regarding expectations for students during Graduation and end of year activities. Immediately following, Connections will be offering "Parties, Proms and Parked Cars" in the cafeteria. Sarah Greeley and David Bloom will be hosting the Connections event.

The D.E.A.R. (Depression Exists, Ask for Relief) Forum was held today, April 25th, in the Black Box. Students who are members of D.E.A.R. share their own experiences with depression and anxiety, explain facts about depression and anxiety in young people, and share resources on where to go, whom to see, how to get started seeking support for oneself or for others. The D.E.A.R. members meet every ACA block and their advisor is Clinical Counselor Stephanie Benash.

The NOSB Team enjoyed their visit and competition in Corvallis, Oregon. The team did very well, finishing up at around 9th place but having bested the fourth place team during matches earlier in the competition. There was a new facet of the competition, not part of the regional matches, that involved presenting an argument in front of a Congressional Committee and then answering questions to defend the position. The LS team did very well in this aspect of the competition, despite not having had the experience before. While in Oregon, the students travelled to the coast, boarded a NOAA research vessel and catalogued sea creatures caught in the trawl net and also learned to take ocean water samples and record values. They were able to enjoy the typical Pacific Northwest weather as well as a day of stunningly blue skies and sunshine. The experience has whetted the appetite of the LS team for further competitions. BJ Pegram, as the NOSB advisor, was extraordinarily proud of the students.

Student Representative Report

Caitlin Carter reported that elections will be held the second week in May. The Student Senate has been discussing planning a Spirit Day for Fall 2017.

Teachers' Association Report

Caroline Singler reported that the 4 quarter is well underway and that teachers of members of the senior class are on an accelerated schedule for the end of the year. Mark Sobkowicz has been awarded "Apple Distinguished Teacher" for pioneers using apple technology to transform education and learning. The Counseling Departmente has initiated the 11th grade seminars, and requests to teachers for college recommendations are beginning. The NOSB team, with advisor BJ Pegram has returned from Corvallis, Oregon having finished tied for 9th overall out of 25 regional championship teams. In the Policy Briefing segment of the tournament, LS placed 6th!

Art teacher Shea Justice will be giving a presentation at DeCordova Museum on “Artist Activist – making your voice heard” at 10am on April 29th, 2017.

Chairman’s Report

Elena Kleifges reported that surveys have been sent out to parents, students, faculty and staff regarding School Start Times. The committee will meet in the next week to evaluate the results of the survey and will present findings to the LS School Committee on May 31st. A Tri-District meeting is being planned for Fall 2017. The subject of school start times will no doubt be addressed at that meeting.

As this was Elena Kleifges’ last meeting as a member of the LS School Committee, Kevin Matthews presented her with an LS chair for her years of service to the communities of Lincoln and Sudbury. Mr. Matthews praised Ms. Kleifges for her leadership and her work to forge a tighter committee that enjoyed a high degree of fellowship and camaraderie. Ms. Kleifges exemplifies one of the cornerstones of a democratic society – that of the citizen servant who serves selflessly for the good of the community and for the good of the institution.

Liaison Reports

There were no Liaison Reports.

Superintendent/Principal’s Report

Bella Wong began her presentation thanking Ms. Kleifges for her guidance and patient ear which Ms. Wong will miss.

In other news, hiring committees are working to find a METCO Director and Athletic Director.

Sandy Crawford and Peter Elenbaas are working to explore the subject of school start times with the faculty. This will be followed by an email and survey requests to all LSRHS families.

Aida Ramos, Director of Student Services has been working on the Coordinated Program Review of all student services required by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Finally, Ms. Wong recognized the Robotics Team which competed in New Hampshire and did so well that they were invited to Nationals in Missouri. The time frame was short and followed two weekends of competitions so, collectively, the team decided to forego Nationals. Ms. Wong praised their extraordinary efforts and complimented the team members on their success.

Director of Finance and Operations’ Report

Sherry Kersey reported that the Turf Field replacement project will be underway beginning on June 19th and completed by the beginning of August, 2017. A search has begun for a new District Treasurer.

Information & Discussion

There was no information nor discussion.

Action Items.

Warrants and payroll were signed.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Calendar of Events

Senior Meeting	April 26, 2017
Spring Play	April 28-30, 2017
Sudbury Town Meeting	May 1-3, 2017
Cum Laude Induction	May 10, 2017
Community Sing	May 11, 2017
LS School Committee	May 16, 2017
METCO Banquet	May 16, 2017
ACE Banquet	May 17, 2017
Instrumental Concert	May 18, 2017
FATA Open House	May 23, 2017

Adjourn

Nancy Marshall moved to adjourn the meeting. Kevin Matthews seconded the motion, all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Francy Zingale