

**LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**Tuesday, February 14, 2017**

**5:30pm          Executive Session Opens                                  Conference Room A, LSRHS**

**Present**

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

**7:15pm          Executive Session closes**

**7:30pm          Public Hearing for FY18 Budget                                  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; Caitlyn Carter, Student Senate Representative.

**Call to Order**

Elena Kleifges called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

**Approval of FY18 Budget**

Bella Wong presented the final draft of the FY18 Budget. Adjustments included the projected FY18 minimum contributions rates, the FY18 Regional Transportation reimbursement, the assumption for the Circuit Breaker Reimbursement, a reduction of the aggregate health insurance increases, reduction of pension assessment increase and an expense reduction in instructional capital.

The total recommended FY18 Budget is \$31,129,299 with debt service and OPEB funding or \$30,405,463 with debt service but without OPEB funding. The adjustments met the Sudbury non-override proposal requirements. The gap in finding over the Sudbury Non-Override Proposal was \$365,129 (budget expense adjustments \$110,590; budget expense reduction - \$100,000; increased assumption for Circuit Breaker Reimbursement - \$154,539). The FY18 Budget assumptions include: retaining the current education program with no new initiatives; a 1.0 FTE for Beacon Program; and additional 0.25 FTE to complete the implementation of the 2-year pilot program. Ms. Wong thanked the members of the School Committee, Sherry Kersey, and the members of the Sudbury and Lincoln Finance Committees, and the Sudbury Budget Strategies Task Force members for their assistance in forming the FY18 Budget for Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Close of Public Hearing on FY18 Budget**

The Public Hearing on the FY18 Budget closed at 7:47 pm.

**Approval of Minutes**

Nancy Marshall moved to approve the minutes for January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor.

Radha Gargeya moved to approve the minutes for January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Patty Mostue seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor of approving the minutes with edits.

**Presentation**

There was no presentation.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Recognitions**

Our thanks to Kevin Rossley and the Building and Grounds staff for working so hard to clear the parking lots and sidewalks of snow during the past two back-to-back snow storms. Their indefatigable efforts allow the rest of us to return to work safely and sure-footedly.

Today is the 7th annual Singing Valentines took place at LS. It was a great pleasure to hear groups of students singing in different places around the building. Teachers were able to opt-in to allow songs to be performed in their classes. Singing Valentines is a fund-raiser for LS Friends of Music.

Carol Schroeder's Math Class will be incorporating vocabulary from the LS Core Values into computer generated drawings. Her math classes are models of connectivity using mathematical skills in English, science, and art.

LS's Accent A Cappella placed third at the ICHSA Regional Quarterfinal Competition and moved on to the Semifinals in March. Lauren Weintraub performed the solo in "Ghost", Ana Shaughnessy performed a solo in "What is Love", and Katherine Kimble and Madelyn Paquette performed the solos for "How Deep Is Your Love". Brian Lynch was recognized as Best Beatboxer and Lauren Weintraub was awarded best soloist. The Semi Finals will take place at Worcester State University on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. They will be featured on the WGBH TV show "Sing that Thing." Tickets are available at the websites below.

[ICHSA Semi-Final Tickets](#)

## [Sing That Thing! Tickets](#)

METCO students viewed *Hidden Figures* at the AMC in Framingham on January 25<sup>th</sup>. This is an inspiring movie about the NASA “computers” – mathematically minded black women – who were instrumental in ensuring that our first human space flights were successful. It is a movie that illuminates a critical piece of US history that has not been highlighted before.

On Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, voting closed for the proposal to adopt a pilot guideline regarding Homework over school vacations. The vote passed with 86% of the vote in favor. We would like to acknowledge the work we all did collectively throughout the process to hear one another and reflect on the students' original proposal. Specifically, thanks to the members of the committee (Phil James, Lisa Weiss, Seth Weiss, Sarah Hogan, Caroline Han, Sarah Greeley, and Dave Bloom) who spent many an hour discussing the topic, planning meetings and processing meeting notes so we could end up with a proposal that honored the faculty, the students, and the process. The committee will be meeting with the Student Senate on February 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss the pilot with them. The pilot goes into effect in the fall of 2017. The committee is already thinking about planning an ED&E on curriculum planning, homework and assessment that may help folks think about the curriculum issues these discussions brought up.

If you have a moment, please take a walk by Jayla's project outside the cafe entitled, "A Day in the life of a METCO student."

Congratulations to Brianna Stokes and Caroline Kenney for representing L-S at Girls and Women in Sport Day on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you Vicky Caburian for being such a huge part of the ceremony and issuing the proclamation from Governor Baker. An amazing event!

Jen Garfield's daughter Dahlia Simone Berger has arrived! She was born on Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup> and her stats are 7 lbs. and 20 inches. A warm welcome to baby Dahlia and our congratulations to Jen and husband Jed Berger and bib sister Nessa. We are now 5-0, with 4 new babies yet to come this year.

The Hamilton Singalong at LS will take place on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> in the LS Auditorium. Middle School students will perform from 7 to 8:30pm and High School students will perform between 8:30 and 10:30 pm. Proceeds will benefit the LS Memorial School in Cambodia. Costumes are encouraged! This event organized by Danielle Weisse.

The MLK Assembly will be held on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10am. This year's award winner will be ACLU lawyer Carlton Williams. Before joining the ACLU of Massachusetts in 2013, Mr. Williams was a criminal defense attorney in Boston. A long-time resident of Roxbury, he has been an activist and organizer on issues of war, immigrants' rights, LGBTQ rights, racial justice and Palestinian self-determination. During the Occupy Boston movement he was part of its legal defense and support team, which provided nearly 24-hour

support to the participants. More recently, Mr. Williams was a Givelber Distinguished Lecturer on Public Interest Law at Northeastern University School of Law, where he taught a class on social justice movements and the law. There will also be musical performances and readings. The Jazz Showcase Concert was postponed again due to Sunday night's snowstorm. A new date is still TBD but will probably be in early March. Keeping the date TBD may be Mr. Grandprey's strategy for keeping Old Man Winter off guard.

On Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, Jinny Van Deusen is scheduled for the weekly Career Speaker Series introduced this year by Andrea Falzone, LS Career Center. Ms. Van Deusen has had extensive experience in both the world of non-profits and in business. The meetings are casual and foster easy conversation between the students and the guest professional. Thank you to Andie for setting up the series and reaching out in the community for speakers.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation has announced the Finalists for 2017 in the competition for the National Merit Scholarships. The LS Finalists are: Emmett Alkasab, Kendall Dawson, Dana Marie Murphy, John Parker, Daniel Rabinovich, Benjamin Short, and Tomer Zur. Congratulations to all!

Nicole Frattaroli, East House Guidance Counselor, is currently the lead in *Mouse Trap* by Agatha Christie which is currently playing at the Footlight Club, 7A Eliot Street in Jamaica Plain. The last days of the show are this coming weekend – February 17 and 18 at 8pm.

### **Student Representative Report**

Caitlin Carter reported that the last Senate discussed the report by the Junior Subcommittee for an Honor Society for underclassmen. Cum Laude Society induction is late in Senior Year. Students want a more general award for academic excellence that is awarded during Junior Year. The Spirit Committee has initiated the "Random Act of Kindness" activity for Valentine's Day. The next meeting will include planning the Faculty Appreciation Day in March.

### **Teachers' Association Report**

Caroline Singler reported that the faculty has approved a pilot for "No Homework Over Vacation Policy" for the 2017-2018 school year and will then reassess. Hiring Committees are ongoing. Counselors have begun Junior Seminars to prepare juniors for the college process and to familiarize them with Naviance. Teachers are busy planning lessons for next month's Project LS. Annalise Notaro, Jason Medeiros, Leslie Patterson, Susan Shields, and Martha Wall have been organizing the event.

The Concert Jazz Ensemble performed at Berklee College Jazz Festival on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. James Nifong and Caleb Martin-Rosenthal received outstanding soloist awards. Standing Together Empowering Women (STEW) organized the film screening of "What Tomorrow Brings" at LS on January 31<sup>st</sup> as a fundraiser for the girls' school in Afghanistan.

### **Chairman's Report**

Elena Kleifges thanked Bella Wong and Sherry Kersey for their work preparing the FY18 Budget and thanked School Committee members for attending the many meetings involved in bringing the FY18 budget to approval.

Ms. Kleifges attended the Sudbury Public Schools most recent meeting regarding Late School Start. Ms. Kleifges recommended that the LS School Committee discuss what position LSRHS will take in this matter.

### **Liaison Reports**

There were no Liaison Reports.

### **Superintendent/Principal's Report**

Bella Wong reported that the Administrators' breakfast on Teacher Workshop day, January 26<sup>th</sup>, in the cafeteria was a great success with a very high turnout.

On January 27<sup>th</sup>, members of the Town of Sudbury Police Department, Fire Department, LSRHS Administration team, and School Nurses attended an all-day training workshop on crisis management. An additional day of training was cancelled due to snow and will be rescheduled.

Poetry Out Loud, organized by Danielle Weisse, took place on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 in the LS Auditorium. Faculty acted as judges for the event in which students recited poetry. The Chinese Dumpling party also took place on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Mandarin teacher Xin Dong and Wellness teacher Vicky Caburian organized the event with students from the ASPIRE club. Students learned to make Chinese dumplings, learned elements of calligraphy, and other aspects of Chinese culture. The Intersections Club and the METCO Student Council met together to discuss methods for enhancing the LS experience for all students.

Ms. Wong attended a Superintendent's meeting at which late start school times were discussed. Most districts are considering the benefits of a later school start time. It was interesting to hear the limiting factors other districts encountered such as large geographical areas, shorter lunch schedules, longer class periods etc. An important factor for LS will be the bus pickup times.

The Head of School for the Vilshofen Altschul, our partner German School, recently passed away. The cultural exchange LS has enjoyed with the school and its Principal has been meaningful for the past seven years. LS has extended its condolences to the members of Vilshofen Altschul.

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

Sherry Kersey reported that there is a new Aramark manager in the cafeteria, who begins after the February vacation.

Bids will be accepted for the Turf Fields replacement beginning in March 2017. Funds have been transferred into the OPEB Investment account.

Ms. Kersey requested votes to approve the FY18 Budget and Debt Service.

***VOTE: Nancy Marshall moved “that the Lincoln-Sudbury School Committee approve the FY18 Operating Budget, including OPEB funding, at \$30,093,370 funded by \$3,377,269 of Revenue Offsets and \$26,716,101 of member community assessments of which \$3,594,026 is assessed to the Town of Lincoln and \$23,122,075 is assessed to the Town of Sudbury, per the enclosed Assessment Schedule.” Radha Gargeya seconded the motion. All were in favor.***

***VOTE: Nancy Marshall moved “that the Lincoln-Sudbury School Committee approve the FY18 Debt Service Budget at \$670,800 funded by member community assessments of which \$94,113 is assessed to the Town of Lincoln and \$576,687 is assessed to the Town of Sudbury, per the enclosed Assessment Schedule.” The motion was seconded by Kevin Matthews. All were in favor.***

### **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**

Presidents’ Day	February 20, 2017
February Vacation	February 21-24, 2017
LS School Committee	February 28, 2017
We are Warriors Project	March 2017
Jr. District Music	March 3-4, 2017
Warnings	March 6, 2017
World Lang. Declamation	March 9, 2017
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parents Night	March 9, 2017
LS School Committee	March 14, 2017

### **Adjourn**

Patty Mostue moved to adjourn the meeting. Radha Gargeya seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Francy Zingale