

**LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, February 28, 2017**

7:30pm

Conference Room B, LSRHS

Present

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

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 7:31pm.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion from Kevin Matthews, seconded by Nancy Marshall, the minutes for February 14th were approved with edits. There was no discussion. All were in favor.

Presentation

There was no presentation.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Recognitions

Ms. Wong thanked the LS School Committee for treating the ExecTA and Ms. Wong to a pasta dinner on February 27th.

L-S will once again be the host site for the Massachusetts Music Educators Association Eastern District Junior Festival on March 3rd and 4th. This is the 9th year we are serving as host site for the festival. 480 Music Students in grades 7-9 have been selected by audition from a field of 80 middle and high schools from our region/district. They will rehearse in honor groups which include concert band, orchestra, mixed chorus, treble chorus and jazz band. Each group will then present a concert, open to the public, on Sat. afternoon.

The Habitat Trip to Baltimore took place during the February break. Nine students, 3 staff (Susan Frommer, Alison Sanders-Fleming, and Steven Driscoll) worked in the Sandtown district

of Baltimore framing and mortaring a 4-story building. The building foreman so appreciated the work ethic of the LS group, that he requested they stay on with him for the duration of their stay. The building the students worked on was one block away from the spot where Freddie Gray was mortally injured while in police custody. The site now has a number of murals dedicated to Freddy Gray's memory. The LS students visited the African American History and Culture Museum, the Washington Zoo, and the DC monuments.

LS is celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the METCO program in Boston and World Language Week in March. The French Department and METCO program at LS are presenting a Haitian dance performance by Jean Appolon Expressions (JAE) "ANGAJE" on Friday, March 10, 2017 at 7:30 (reception at 6:30) in the Kirshner Auditorium. It is free to attend! The word "Angaje" translates to "committed" or "engaged", with origins relating to the protest music used as a representation of the founding of the world's first black republic. The show is inspired by the struggle against homophobia and the power of Haitian cultural tradition in the fight for justice. Jean Appolon Expression combines the old traditions of Voodoo religion with new contemporary dance moves to re-create the rhythms that are at the heart of Haitian culture.

Jordyn Marsh, Allie Kantrovitz, Melissa Parzych, Kate Molloy, and Julia Martin traveled with chaperones Katelyn Dix and Paul Sarapas to the Dominican Republic through the organization Yspaniola over the February break. Yspaniola is a nonprofit organization (of which LS alum Gerald McElroy is a board member and does social justice on the island) which works in Batey Libertad, a small community of migrant workers of primarily Haitian descent, to help assist in education and other community initiatives. The students toured the cities of Santiago, Dajabon, and Santo Domingo and learned about race relations in the country; however, the centerpiece of the trip was a 4-day/3-night homestay in the Batey. The students were moved, inspired, and invigorated by the experience, and all hope to continue the relationship between LS and Yspaniola well into the future.

Project LS: We are Warriors begins on March 2nd. The mission statement: to reaffirm, learn about, and practice our core values of respecting human differences and cultivating community and to model how we hope they are lived at LS. Jamele Adams, Dean of Students at Brandeis University and a celebrated spoken word poet, will address 9th and 10th graders and relate his personal experience in order to promote understanding, community and freedom of expression. 11th and 12th graders will attend the Meraki Theater Collective performance. The Meraki Theater Collective works with schools to empower students and adults alike to share stories and build community awareness. Each performance will be preceded and/or followed by a workshop designed to reflect, explore, and discuss the LS core values of cultivating community and respecting human difference. The purpose of Project LS is to be responsive to what has been heard from our students and the focus is to support inclusion of all members of the LS community.

Boys Basketball fought hard against undefeated, defending state champion Cambridge Rindge and Latin but came up short in their last home game the Friday before break. Unfortunately, that

eliminated our team from the playoffs. Nonetheless they improved throughout the year and played high energy, entertaining team basketball throughout the season.

Girls Hockey ended their season in style with a 5-1 win over league rival CC in their last game of the season over break. Even though they came up short of the playoffs, the team had a great year with many tight, exciting one-goal games that came right down to the closing seconds.

Swim & Dive finished up their season over the President's day weekend with some excellent performances at the State Meet. In fact, Catherine Oppenheim came in 1st in the 100m breaststroke and Carson Hunsberger came in 3rd in diving.

Congratulations to Wrestling for finishing second in the Division 1 meet. It came down to the last few matches and our team did a great job competing and working for every match. We had five top 6 finishers and a sixth in the top 8. Three of them went on to place at All states and will finish their season this coming weekend at New England's:

Andy Richard - 120 lb, Billy Dunn - 138 lb & Andrew Marshall - 195 lb

Andy and Billy came in second in D1 and third in All State.

Andrew came in third in D1 and third in All State.

Third, congratulations to Indoor Track & Field for their excellence at the D1 meet and then at All States over the two weekends of February break. We had so many placers and qualifiers I need to defer to our coaches for the exact results (although you can see top three finishers in the link above). I do know that between the boys and girls teams there are a remarkable twelve athletes who've qualified to compete at Nationals in two weeks.

LS Students and staff will be taking the White Ribbon Pledge together in gym 1 on Wednesday, March 1st at 1:20pm. Thank you to Boys & Girls Rugby and MVP for hosting a table/banner at lunch tomorrow outside the cafeteria during the lunch. The White Ribbon Pledge:

"I WILL PROMOTE respect, dignity and equality.

I WILL SPEAK OUT against attitudes and behaviors that contribute to sexual assault and domestic violence.

I WILL REMIND myself and others that gender violence is a men's issue that affects all of us, regardless of our backgrounds and identities.

I WILL CONFRONT sexism, homophobia, racism and other forms of oppression.

I WILL FIND OUT how to help when I suspect that someone I know is a victim or offender of sexual assault or domestic violence.

From this day forward, I PROMISE to be part of the solution in ending violence against women."

METCO Lobby Day is on Tuesday March 14. Anyone able to visit the state house is encouraged to do so to express your support of the METCO Program. If not, please consider writing a letter or phone call to the state senators and state representatives of Lincoln or Sudbury.

The METCO Directors Association Youth Leadership Conference will be taking place this month at Bentley University and we are sending four sophomores and juniors who are rising leaders (Treon Washington, Shalysha Marks, Andre Brown and Chanel Osborne). The 20th Annual Youth Conference will be held on Friday, March 10, 2017 in the LaCava Building at Bentley University, 175 Forest Street, Waltham, MA. The theme of this year's conference is: "**BE EXtraordinary.**" The purpose of the Youth Leadership conference is to provide an educational event that augments youth leadership and enhances the continuous development of students toward responsible and informed citizenship in the urban and suburban environments in which they live and learn.

Two METCO Juniors (Elcie Merck and Haley Lopes) have been accepted to take part in a leadership program at MIT called the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Leadership Training Institute. The program is a mentorship program for high school students that focuses on developing leadership skills. It runs weekly during the spring semester and focuses on teaching students the fundamentals of leadership and supplying them with the tools to make a difference in their own communities. Students have the opportunity to become mentors themselves during the summer at MIT's High School Studies Program (HSSP). If accepted, all students are awarded a full scholarship for the weekly 12-session program from February 2017 to May 2017. It will meet on Sundays from 1-4pm February 12th to May 7th, 2017.

We congratulate Caroline Kenney, a senior at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, who has been selected as the recipient of the "MIAA Student-Athlete of the Month Award" for January 2017. A three-season student-athlete at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, Caroline participates in field hockey, swimming and track and field. As a member of the field hockey team, she was a three-year starting midfielder and was named a Dual County League All-Star for the past two seasons. She qualified for the MIAA State Swimming and Diving Championship and was a member of the 2015 MIAA Division 1 State Championship team. In addition to her athletic accomplishments, Caroline is known for her leadership. She served as a co-captain of both the field hockey and swimming and diving teams and was selected by the school to attend the MIAA Massachusetts Celebration of National Girls and Women in Sport Day at Faneuil Hall.

Final interviews and Q&A's are being conducted this week for the candidates for Associate Principal: Peter Elenbaas, Sean Kiley, and Mike Dudek. Leslie Patterson has managed the candidate search and hiring process smoothly and efficiently.

Student Representative Report

Caitlin Carter thanked the LS faculty for their support of a No Homework During Breaks pilot program. The Student Senate is planning a Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day in March or the beginning of April.

Teachers' Association Report

Caroline Singler reported that members of the faculty had been busy during the February break chaperoning student service trips to New Orleans and the Dominican Republic. The Hiring Committee to fill the Associate Principal position involved a number of faculty for many meetings. An A.L.I.C.E. drill was successfully completed under the guidance of Eleanor Burke. Ms. Singler recognized the efforts of Danielle Weisse and Susan Frommer in organizing the Martin Luther King Jr. Assembly who were assisted by Charles Despotopoulos, Michael Bunting and Thomas Grandprey. Winter Sports have wrapped up for the year and Ms. Singler expressed gratitude for the many faculty that were involved in winter sports as coaches and assistant coaches.

Chairman's Report

Ms. Kleifges introduced the first reading of the Remote Participation Policy. Radha Gargeya suggested comparing it to the policy of other regional schools. Kevin Matthews suggested creating a draft of the policy specific to Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School for the next School Committee meeting. Ms. Kleifges will be attending the EDCO Round Table that discusses School Committee self-assessments.

Liaison Reports

There were no Liaison Reports.

Superintendent/Principal's Report

Bella Wong reported that mid-quarter warnings will be sent out next week as the middle of third quarter is at hand. A number of meetings have been planned for the remainder of the school year including a Department of Elementary and Secondary Education presentation about transgender orientation and the different ways it fits into the student data base with regard to state laws and regulations. There will be a presentation to the faculty from Judith Owen, the sleep specialist. There will also be an update on the Hub for Innovation including information for initiating projects.

Student services is scheduled for a coordinated program review. This year self-assessments will be completed, next year there will be a site visit.

LS is hosting the Jr. District Music Festival for the 9th year. Ms. Wong congratulated Thomas Grandprey and Michael Bunting for organizing and hosting this large event.

Project LS will be launched on Thursday, March 2nd. Leslie Patterson, Jason Medeiros, Martha Wall, Annalisa Notaro, Susan Frommer and Lori Hodin have been instrumental in organizing this large-scale project. Assemblies will take place geared to be age-appropriate. Dr. Jamel Adams from Brandeis will speak regarding building community to the 9th and 10th grade students. The Meraki Theatre Collective will perform for the 11th and 12th grade students. Project LS is about appreciating all our voices and ensuring that everyone in the building knows that they belong and are cared about equally.

The month of March is an extraordinarily busy month at LS. A Jazz concert and a Pops Concert are scheduled for the last weeks of March. The annual Mr. LS event will take place on March 17th.

This is the second year of the Global Scholar Program. Seniors will be completing their capstone projects in March. JK Park and David Grace have been meeting individually with students to help them achieve their capstone project.

Finally, Ms. Wong expressed her appreciation that members of the School Committee have attended the open forums introducing the three finalists for the position.

Planning for student travel for the coming school year will be completed by the end of this month. A list of travel opportunities will be released to the LS community so that families can plan for the coming year.

Director of Finance and Operations' Report

Ms. Kersey requested a vote reauthorize the OPEB Trust.

VOTE: Nancy Marshall moved "that the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional School Committee reaccept the provisions of Massachusetts General Law 32B, Section 20, as amended by Sections 15 and 238 of the Acts of 2016 ("Act")." Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. There was no discussion, all were in favor. Gerald Quirk did not vote (absent).

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

We are Warriors Project	March 2, 2017
Jr. District Music	March 3-4, 2017
Warnings	March 6, 2017
World Lang. Declamation	March 9, 2017
8 th Grade Parents Night	March 9, 2017
LS School Committee	March 14, 2017

Adjourn

Nancy Marshall moved to adjourn the meeting. Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Francy Zingale