

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

**Wednesday, May 31, 2017**

**7:30 p.m.**

**LS Conference Room B**

**Present**

Kevin Matthews, Chair; Gerald Quirk, Vice-Chair; Radha Gargeya; Craig Gruber; Nancy Marshall; Patty Mostue

**Also Present**

Bella Wong, Superintendent/Principal; Sherry Kersey, Director of Finance and Operations; Caroline Singler, TA; Sandy Crawford, Associate Principal; Peter Elenbaas, Athletic Director; Elena Kleifges; Michael Bunting, Music Teacher; Tamara Lewis, Dierdre Lewis, Edward Walker, Nikki Fortes, Sana Smalls, Sharon Powell, LS METCO parents; Jane Tocco, Sudbury parent; Carol Casper, Lincoln parent; and Jonathan Dame, Metrowest Daily News.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

**Approval of Minutes**

Approval of Minutes for May 13, 2017 was tabled until the next meeting.

**Reorganization of the School Committee**

*Nancy Marshall nominated Kevin Matthews to become the next Chair of the Lincoln-Sudbury School Committee. Radha Gargeya seconded the nomination. All were in favor; there was no discussion.*

*Radha Gargeya nominated Gerald Quirk to be the Vice-Chair of the Lincoln-Sudbury School Committee. Patty Mostue seconded the nomination. All were in favor; there was no discussion.*

**Presentation**

The L-S METCO Parent Committee, represented by Co-Presidents Dierdre Lewis and Tamara Andrews and accompanied by spokesperson Edward Walker Andrews, presented their concerns to the School Committee. Mr. Walker read a letter to the School Committee on behalf of the L-S METCO parents. The letter expressed their confusion over the conditions of Steve Desrosiers leaving L-S and desire to improve communications between their organization and the administration of LSRHS.

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## **School Start Time Committee Report**

Associate Principal Sandy Crawford, Music Teacher Michael Bunting, Athletic Director Peter Elenbaas, School Committee Liaison Nancy Marshall, former Chair of the LS School Committee Elena Kleifges, Lincoln parent Carole Casper, Science teacher Chris Collins, Mat teacher Kate Berry and Wellness teacher Kelly Mazza comprise the School Start Time Committee and reported on the LS School Start Time Committee's findings.

The subject of changing the school start time arose from discussions initiated at the Tri-School Committee meetings held in 2016. The LS School Start Time Committee sent surveys regarding the subject to faculty, staff, students, and families to get a sense of the support the subject would have. Information on teen sleep patterns and the benefits of a later school start time had been disseminated to the interest groups via presentations by experts and by discussions during faculty meetings.

There were 8 key findings:

- 1) An overwhelming majority of survey respondents believed that L-S students were "underslept".
- 2) METCO students were particularly "underslept."
- 3) There are competing demands for after school time: homework, co-curricular and social/screen time.
- 4) Survey respondents were willing to experiment to achieve best results.
- 5) Unwillingness to end the school day later than 3:00pm.
- 6) Respondents were unwilling to sacrifice discretionary time during the school day.
- 7) Transportation would be a key part of the puzzle.
- 8) There was concern regarding the cost of changing the school start time.

There were 3 areas for further consideration:

- 1) Facilitate a three-way partnership (school, parents, students) to promote healthy sleep habits in students.
- 2) Explore the feasibility of later bus pick-up times.
- 3) Form a school-based committee to explore the feasibility of a later school start time.

## **Public Comment**

Edward Walker, METCO parent, found the School Start Time presentation very interesting. He wondered if another way to provide a better schedule for L-S students would be to restructure the school day with 4 classes rather than 6 class periods per day. Students might take 4 subjects per semester rather than 7, for example which would result in more time spent during the day on curriculum, more time in the classroom, and fewer classes to do homework for each night.

## **Recognitions**

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Jeffrey Dimunah's essay on *Spilled Milk* was published in *The Marble Collection's Massachusetts High School Magazine of the Arts*. The Marble Collection's mission is to cultivate creativity and excellence in the arts by engaging teen artists and writers in a publication process that affirms their voices and deepens their learning. The Marble publishes the Massachusetts High School Magazine of the Arts, the only statewide print and online magazine of the arts featuring jury-selected artwork, photography, spoken word, poetry, and writing by students in grades 8 to 12. Jeffrey's essay was an outgrowth of an assignment in Creative Writing taught by Annalisa Notaro.

Kelly Bultema is part of a two-person show that is currently on display at the Lincoln Arts Project -- which is on Moody Street in Waltham. The theme of the show is based on Flemish Vanitas paintings, titled "Natura Morta" (natural death), with her conceptual necklaces and paintings by Tanya Harsch. The opening is Friday night June 2nd from 6-9pm with cocktails and snacks, but the work will be up until the 23rd of June. If you're in the area, it is worth a look!

Ella Houlihan (L-S'17) has been awarded an OMEGA Opportunities for Multigenerational Engagement, Growth, and Action Scholarship by the MIT AgeLab for her intergenerational leadership efforts. The MIT AgeLab, in combination with AARP and the New England University Transportation Center is also presenting Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School with a monetary award to be used to further support the intergenerational programming efforts that Ella has been leading. Ella and her co-winners will be hosted at an event at MIT on July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017. We offer our congratulations to Ella!

Kathleen Rice has been recognized by the United States Figure Skating as a student-athlete who has worked hard to pursue figure skating while maintaining her academics. Kathleen has been awarded the Platinum Level Graduating Seniors Award. The Platinum Level is the highest level of achievement. We congratulate Kathleen on this recognition and the perseverance, self-discipline, and time management this has required.

On May 12th, the MVP (Mentors in Violence Prevention) team brought the One Love Foundation's "Escalation Workshop" to all L-S seniors. The purpose of the escalation workshop is to make students aware of the specific factors that can change a relationship from healthy to unhealthy. Students learned safe and effective "upstander" strategies and became aware of specific resources for support. As our seniors prepare for their steps beyond LSRHS, we believe that the Escalation Workshop will provide them important and powerful readiness tools to be advocates for healthy relationships and to be safe in their own relationships.

The annual ARTS DAY performance assembly was held on Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. It included choral and instrumental music, film, and drama. It was a wonderful opportunity to experience the work of our talented and hard-working L-S artists during the school day. Jessica Sperandio and Paul Sarapas organized this event.

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April 29-30 was quite a weekend at L-S. Thank you to Carly Evans and all her students for the play. Thank you to the boys' lacrosse coaches and athletes for their Saturday event (three varsity games between MA and NJ teams). Thank you to the track coaches and athletes for their Sunday MSTCA relay meet (over thirty track teams participated). AND above all thank you to the B&G guys for the set-up, clean-up and management. There were probably over 7000 people here over the weekend and you'd never know if you walked around campus the following morning.

Elizabeth Kleynerman competed at US gymnastics Regional Championships held in early April in Springfield, MA, and qualified for the 2017 Junior Olympic National Championships in Indianapolis on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Lizzie is a competitive gymnast who trains 36 hours per week. These 36 hours consist of 28 hours of regular training followed by 8 hours of elite training at 10.0 Gymnastics in Stow, MA. Congratulations to Elizabeth Kleynerman!

In celebration of L-S students' creative accomplishments, the L-S Fine, Applied and Technical Arts department hosted an open house on May 23 from 7-9pm. The AP Studio Art Students displayed their art work and the Technology and Engineering students displayed rockets, solar powered water heaters, woodworking projects and more. Guests were able to see the 3D printing and CNC Routing in action, drive the 2017 Warrior Robotics robot and hear some great music from the LS Jazz Ensemble.

On Friday May 12<sup>th</sup>, French Cinema students presented a free showing of the critically acclaimed French film "Ma Vie de Courgette." A reception was held outside the LS auditorium that featured music, student-made art related to the movie, and refreshments. Funds raised through sale of baked goods were donated to Medecins Sans Frontieres.

SERF ACE (Appreciation of Champions in Education) Awards have been awarded to Daniel Conti, Karen D'Amore, Colleen Demers, Brandon Dorey, Nicole Frattaroli, David Grace, Nancy Goldstone, Carol Lewis, Dan Lewis, Ann Kramer, Shawn Lingley, Lisa Lupinacci, JK Park, William Pegram, Paul Shultz, Chris Shutzer, MJ Walsh, Danielle Weisse, and Seth Weiss. ACE Awards indicate that a donation has been made by an LS family to honor the educator named in the award. The funds are then used to provide SERF grants that benefit our schools and staff.

David Jurewicz, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade House Administrator at Curtis Middle School, has commended the LS Robotics club students who have coached Curtis Middle School students this past year. Jack Doherty, Lead Coach and Coordinator, Assistant Coaches Chris Beeler, Talia Heisey, Sonia Litovchick, Noah Green, Hunter Mankus, and Peter McGurk worked directly with the Curtis students. The L-S coaches managed their individual Curtis teams during a competition in December 2017 at which the Curtis team was the only team out of 28 that was run entirely by high school students. Best of all, Mr. Jurewicz reported that the middle school students enjoyed the process! Jack Doherty initiated the Robotics Club over two years ago and worked with a

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Curtis teacher to present the idea of a Middle School Robotics Club to the Sudbury Public School Committee. His leadership and organizational skills have been remarkable.

Chris Collins reported that several Environmental Club students helped out at the Town of Sudbury's styrofoam collection in May. These students are really making an impact! Think Globally. Act locally.

### **Student Representative Report**

There was no Student Representative report.

### **Teachers' Association Report**

Caroline Singler began her report thanking the School Committee members who attended classes during visiting day on May 10, 2017.

She commended Maureen Bolton for smoothly handling the AP Testing that has recently concluded. Twenty AP exams were administered to 260 students. Maureen organized rooms, proctors and timing of the tests, while maintaining her own teaching schedule.

Students are now able to take out chrome books on load for the day from the library. This is a new initiative between the L-S IT team and the Librarians.

Caroline Han advised this year's Tenacity Challenge team. The L-S students finished 6<sup>th</sup> overall in the competition. Assistance was provided by teachers Phil James, Chris Herbert, and Caroline Han.

Susan Shields has organized through her peer leaders, the visits to LS of incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders from Curtis Middle School and from the Lincoln Middle School.

### **Chairman's Report**

Kevin Matthews welcomed the L-S School Committee's newest member, Craig Gruber. This year will be a negotiation year with the Teachers' Association so there will be a great deal of work to do. Mr. Matthews is looking forward to a good year to come and is optimistic that the negotiations will go well.

### **Liaison Reports**

Liaison responsibilities will be reviewed at the L-S School Committee's retreat on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

Gerald Quirk reported on the Building and Grounds Subcommittee meetings having to do with repurposing 420 Lincoln Road and possible uses for it. Also discussed were repairs that must be made to maintain the viability of the building. Improvements to 420 Lincoln Road will be submitted to the Capital Planning Lists for Lincoln and Sudbury.

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Kevin Matthews reported on attending the ACE Banquet and seeing first-hand the value of programs at L-S and the impact staff's hard work had on the students that were part of the program.

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

Bella Wong reported that the May 16<sup>th</sup> L-S School Committee meeting coincided with the METCO Awards Banquet which was held in Hibernian Hall in Boston. It was a pleasure to see the student achievements recognized with awards. Sandra Williams has been selected to be the new METCO Director at LS starting on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Associate Principal Leslie Patterson will be mentoring Ms. Williams. Sandra Williams has been working at the Sudbury Public elementary schools and is familiar with our school system. She has a diverse educational background and will be a fine addition to the L-S METCO Program.

Ms. Wong is keeping a close weather eye on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, the L-S graduation day. She is considering moving the time of the ceremony earlier to avoid inclement weather.

The last L-S Faculty Meeting was held on May 31<sup>st</sup> and the subject was the cheating policy, specifically to achieve a level of fairness in implementation. A survey was prepared; there was small group discussion. The subject will be revisited in the fall of 2017.

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

Sherry Kersey reported that the budget books have been updated. She has received notification from the Town of Sudbury that they are ready to begin looking at Capital Planning. Results from the Transportation survey on ridership is complete and a registration process has captured the ridership numbers for the coming year.

### **Information & Discussion**

There was no information or discussion.

### **Action Items**

***VOTE: Gerald Quirk moved to re-appoint for 2017-2018 school year, Donna Cakert, District Clerk; Diane Kaufman, Assistant District Treasurer; and Franczy Zingale, School Committee Secretary. Radha Gargeya seconded the motion. All were in favor, there was no discussion.***

Vouchers #1043-1047 were signed.  
Payroll for 05/30/17 was signed.

### **Other Business**

There was no other business.

### **Calendar of Events**

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Graduation	June 4, 2017
Jamaica Jammin'	June 4-5, 2017
Science MCAS	June 5-6, 2017
9-11 <sup>th</sup> Grade Awards	June 8, 2017
LS School Committee	June 13, 2017
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Ends	June 14, 2017
Final Exams	June 15-21, 2017
LS School Committee	June 29, 2017

### **Adjourn**

On a motion from Gerald Quirk, seconded by Radha Gargeya, the meeting was adjourned  
At 9:26pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Francy Zingale

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