

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

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

7:30 p.m.

LS Conference Room B

Present

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

Also Present

Bella Wong, Superintendent/Principal; Sherry Kersey, Director of Finance and Operations; Kenneth Ho, Eagle Scout; Lisa Weiss, Math Department; Mrs. Ho; Scott Fisher, Boy Scout Troop Leader.

Call to Order

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

Approval of Minutes

On a motion from Gerald Quirk and seconded by Patty Mostue, the Minutes for April 25, 2017, were approved. There was no discussion and all were in favor. Nancy Marshall was absent.

On a motion from Radha Gargeya and seconded by Gerald Quirk, the Minutes for May 31, 2017, were approved. There was no discussion and all were in favor. Nancy Marshall was absent.

Presentation

Eagle Scout Project Proposal by Kenneth Ho.

Kenneth Ho presented his Eagle Scout Project Proposal to build 8 benches around the tennis courts. The benches will be placed at intervals around the courts and will be constructed of trex material and pressure-treated wood to minimize maintenance. Construction will begin this summer, the benches will be in place by end of August. Kevin Rossley has approved the project.

VOTE: Craig Gruber moved to approve Kenneth Ho's Eagle Scout Project to build 8 benches around the tennis courts. Gerald Quirk seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Lisa Weiss, Math Department, addressed the LS School Committee on matters relating to the Math Department. There are 23 teachers in the LS Math Department, 4 of whom are L-S graduates. The most recent endeavors of the Math Department have involved re-naming level designations to align with other leveled sequences in other academic departments at L-S. It is part of a larger project among all L-S departments to increase clarity for incoming and current students as well as their parents by more accurately describing the rigor of courses

and to transmit this clarity to the L-S student transcript which will be sent to colleges and universities as part of the college admissions process.

Intensive Math courses will be labelled as Accelerated Advanced. Level 1 classes will be named Advanced. Level 2 classes will have no additional level designation and Level 3 classes will be renamed as Foundation level classes. All incoming 9th graders for 2017-2018 will know the courses by their new designations. New courses offered for the coming year are Algebra I Linear; Algebra I Quadratics; and a year-long Calculus course.

The Math Department has hosted a Mobile Artist in Residence, provided by grants from SERF grant, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Sudbury Cultural Council, the Lincoln Cultural Council, and the LSPO. The artist has visited math classrooms to solicit design ideas from students to create a mobile to be displayed in the light well outside the Math Department. The mobile is designed to incorporate order, precision and measurement but not predictability. It will be cohesive yet random and an illustration of how math fits into every aspect of life. Installation is expected to take place in October 2017.

Continuing endeavors are Café Mathematics which is staffed by math teachers every day during the lunch blocks, the annual Pi Day festivities, and incorporating Common Core updates, as well as 9th grade skills development which is proving extremely successful.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Recognitions

Bella Wong announced the hiring of Arthur Reilly as our new Director of Athletics & Activities. Art is very excited to bring his years of experience in western Mass as an educator, administrator, and AD to Lincoln-Sudbury. Mr. Reilly has worked at Lee Middle & High School since 2004. Throughout his tenure there, he has taught Physical Education and has also served as the Dean of Students and Athletic Director. Prior to his time at Lee, he served as a Teacher and Physical Education/Wellness Coordinator for the Central Berkshire Regional School District. Throughout his career, he has coached a number of sports at the Varsity level and has served the MIAA in various capacities.

Our thanks to the hiring committee - especially for their commitment and resolve through two searches. We all understood the importance of the stewardship of our co-curriculum, and I appreciate greatly their perseverance throughout the process: Susan Shields, Caroline Singler, Amanda Klein, Judy Katalina, Tom Lopez, and Mimi Cahill. Student leaders throughout the process (Nikhil Lele, Larsen Henken, Ryan Rogers - for the first search - and Kayla Bain & Owen Toland for the second search) represented LS well. The candidates were impressed with their poise and insight during the interviews, and the committee reflected on the wisdom of their analysis during deliberations. They could not have demonstrated better leadership.

The 9th to 11th Grade Award Ceremony was held on June 8th in the LS Auditorium. 182 awards were given to 139 students. It was a great evening!

The Pierce House Luncheon will be held on Monday, June 19th, in Lincoln from 1 to 4pm. Many thanks to Marci Stoda for arranging the event. Faculty and Staff enjoy the respite from exams and grading to spend some time together and honoring colleagues who are retiring this year: Eleanor Burke, Andrea Falzone, Barbara Feger, Joan Gaumnitz, and Ann Kramer.

The LSB Players annual student-directed 10-minute play festival, Collage XXIII, was held on Friday and Saturday, June 9 and 10, at 7:30pm in the Rogers Theatre to a standing room only crowd. This is always a fun, casual evening, amusing and irreverent - a great way to end the year! Student Directors were: Jack Troiano, Charlotte Dezen, Ava Liepert, Max Lustig, Olivia Bodley, Ruby Carmel, Zoe Behrakis, Josh Podolsky, Erica Cordischi, Quincee Day, Tim Lucey, Devon Silsby, Olivia Silva and Catriona Morris.

LS Peer Leaders visited Curtis Middle School on Wednesday, May 31st, to answer questions about life at LS to our incoming 9th graders. The Curtis students will visit LS on Friday, June 2nd. LS Peer Leaders visited Lincoln Middle School on May 19th and the Lincoln incoming 9th graders visited LS on Wednesday, June 7th.

A film festival will be taking place on June 13th from 7 to 10pm in the Lecture Hall. The student short films that will be shown are the product of the film and video classes offered by the FATA Department. The event was organized by Paul Sarapas.

L-S METCO will be hosting an end of year luncheon tomorrow in Conference Room B during the ACA Block. All staff are invited to join!

Student Representative Report

There was no student representative report.

Teachers' Association Report

Caroline Singler expressed appreciation to the LSPO for providing a staff lunch on June 7, 2017. Teachers are preparing for exams and grading and thinking ahead to professional development opportunities during the summer months.

Chairman's Report

Kevin Matthews reported that the LS School Committee website has been updated. The annual LS School Committee Retreat will take place in Lincoln on June 29th, 2017.

Liaison Reports

The first meeting of the Negotiations Subcommittee will take place on June 19th, 2017.

Superintendent/Principal's Report

Bella Wong thanked the School Committee members for their participation in the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2017 and thanked everyone for their flexibility in accepting the change of time to thwart the inclement weather forecast for the late afternoon. Jamaica Jammin' was a great success and she extended her gratitude to the Jamaica Jammin' Committee and their extraordinary work into creating a wonderful, safe, and entertaining evening for LS graduates. Gerald Quirk complimented Ms. Wong on her adept communications with families of graduating seniors.

Ms. Wong introduced the new student parking plan set to be in place for start of school in August. Students will be assigned to zones within the parking lot which will help administrators monitor for safety and decrease student search for available parking spaces.

Ms. Wong next reported on accomplishment of school goals for 2016-2017 school year. The starting point for this past year's school goals is the question "What do we want our students to know by the time they graduate from LS?" Throughout the year, faculty meetings have continued the discussion of this subject. New courses: Mandarin, Collaborative Theatre, and History of Race and Membership have been designed to provide a more complete answer to the school goal question.

This school year marked the initiation of gmail accounts for all students. Additional work in systems transparency is nearing completion with the LS document viewer for parents/guardians of L-S students. The Global Scholars program has witnessed the finished capstone projects of its first graduates. Next year's capstone projects will be presented in April 2018. Continued progress is being made on center for innovation plans. A stipend for teachers will be offered in the next school year for student projects to be completed collaboratively during the coming school year. A plan for updating and maintaining the property at 420 Lincoln Road is ongoing.

On a larger scale, work continues on the 5 strands necessary for Access to Equity and Excellence. The five strands are: youth culture; family engagement; instructional practice; looking at data; and leadership.

Youth Culture – Project LS was designed to emphasize to students the importance of their "voice" and the importance of listening to all voices within the community. It reinforced the L-S core value of respecting human differences. New student clubs that have enhanced this effort are S.T.E.W. (Stand Together Empowering Women) which brought to LS "Razia's Ray of Hope" and S.O.A.R. (Students Organizing for Allyship and Resilience). Presentations by the A.C.L.U. during the MLK Assembly, a presentation by the Massachusetts Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education to all staff regarding gender identity and expression took place this year. Faculty discussions will continue this summer and into the next school year to debrief Project L-S and to continue efforts begun with Project L-S.

Family Engagement – There are a number of ongoing outreach initiatives from L-S to families beginning with outreach to specific communities such as parents/guardians of students participating in the ACE, EXCEL, REACH, Beacon, LINK, METCO, ELL, and Clinical Counseling programs. Additionally, there is always outreach from the faculty to families and from the house system to families. Programs such as Connections, School Council, Co-Curricular activities, and the L-S School Committee also provide outreach to our families and students. This year, the improved school profile and document viewer for parents in iPASS will significantly enhance parent/guardian communication with the school. In addition, parents are invited to: 8th Grade Parents' Night; 9th Grade Parents' Night; Back to School Night; college counseling sessions; Connections evenings; the Escalation Workshop introduction; athlete's night; and senior parents' night.

Instructional Practice – Enhancements to our academic support and intervention program, the new integrated strategic skills class offered to all students, and faculty discussion and professional development on reaching students with varied strategic skills, as well as methods of communicating high expectations, the growth mindset, and adjusting outcomes through effort to our students have been an ongoing concern and area of work. In addition, the Beacon Program has successfully become part of the LS Budget, LINK has been successfully expanded, ACE has been reorganized, an intervention specialist has been added to the staff, an integrated strategic skills class is part of the curriculum, the counseling curriculum has been fully implemented, a new student support team referral process has begun, and preparation is underway for the Coordinated Program Review.

Looking at Data – Faculty and staff have been studying GPA trends, IEP Referrals, attendance, and MCAS performance for the purpose of improving programs for L-S students.

Leadership – Initiatives to support leadership at L-S have included the Visions program, METCO team and METCO student council, the Diversity Job Fair, and ED&E Workshops. Work will begin on the Cheating Policy so that there will be uniform implementation.

Ms. Wong is mindful of a third goal which is the development and strengthening of social-emotional supports and education for staff and students. During the 2016-2017 school year, the administration has provided political climate guidelines and support; crisis response protocol; bully prevention training – its forms and strategies to deal with it; information on teen sleep; school start time change; and support for clinical counselors.

The Core Value focus this year has been on respecting human differences. This focus has been supported by the visions program; First Adventure; Project LS; Presentations on Gender Identity and Expression; MLK Assembly; World Language Exchange Programs; Haitian Musical Dance Group; and Rena Funder.

School Safety has been augmented by installation of increased security cameras, an increase to the nursing staff; replacement of the turf fields; expansion of safety drills for tornado and fire; Unified Command training with town, fire, police, and public works departments in the

Town of Sudbury; MVP training in escalation workshops geared toward college students; and the efforts of House teams and Clinical Counselors.

Coordination with Lincoln Public Schools and Sudbury Public Schools occurs through interdepartmental meetings; transition meetings; placement meetings; MVP visits; Peer Leadership interactions; Robotic Club; and Model UN.

The goals for next year will include what we want our students to be able to do by the time they graduate; development of a portrait of an L-S graduate; ensuring access to equity and excellence; continue to develop culturally responsive and inclusive all school learning opportunities to support belonging; review cheating policy for more equitable implementation; review intervention data to inform practice; review curriculum offerings for cultural relevance; and reinforce universal high expectations. Other goals for the 2017-2018 school year are to ensure socio-emotional supports for students and staff to promote health and well-being; develop and offer strategies to successfully balance academic and socio-emotional needs; understand and respond to the Metrowest Health Survey; resolve response to the school start time issue; review the homework guideline pilot; establish a social media policy and guidelines; and reflect on the 9th grade experience.

Next year's core value will be Pursuing Academic Excellence. Within a student's 4-years at L-S, they will have had exposure to all the core values.

Ms. Wong stated that she is proud of the work accomplished this year. It has been a challenging year and she thanks the support of the LS School Committee.

Director of Finance and Operations' Report

Sherry Kersey updated the School Committee members on the National School Lunch Program. Calculations have been completed to establish the fee for school meals. There are two levels of lunch fees: \$2.75 and \$3.25, with a weighted average of \$2.80. The LS school lunch menu has been improved with the hire of Michele McLellan. Information on the lunch program will be sent to families before the start of school.

Information & Discussion

There was no information and discussion.

Action Items

There were no action items.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Calendar of Events

4 th Quarter Ends	June 14, 2017
Final Exams	June 15-21, 2017

LS School Committee
9th Grade Orientation
First Day School, All students
LS School Committee

June 29, 2017
August 29, 2017
August 30, 2017
September 12, 2017

Adjourn

Gerald Quirk motioned to adjourn the meeting. Patty Mostue seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Francy Zingale