

**LINCOLN-SADBURY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES
JANUARY 20, 2015**

**7:30 PM
Hartwell Bldg, Lincoln Public Schools**

Present

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

Also Present

Bella Wong, Superintendent/Principal; Patrick Collins, Director of Finance and Operations; Shawn Lingley, TA Co-President; Mrs. Chandra, Lincoln Parent.

Call to Order

Radha Gargeya called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Radha Gargeya requested a motion to approve the Minutes for January 6, 2015. Elena Kleifges moved to approve the minutes and Patty Mostue seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Presentation

There was no presentation.

Public Comment

Mr. Giles Troughton, Sudbury parent, addressed the School Committee with his concerns. Mr. Troughton asked to be informed of the changes to the Special Education Department that resulted from the Walker Report. He requested being informed about changes made to the LINK program; the protocol for placing students in special education groups; protocols clarifying co-teaching models; and efforts to reduce confusion among teachers with regard to roles and responsibilities.

Recognitions

Susan Frommer, Dani, Weisse and the MLK students transformed the AB connector into a powerful learning opportunity about history, politics, and social action. On Thursday, the AB Connector became the pathway of the 1965 March from Selma to Montgomery with footsteps, video footage of the event, photographs of participants and vignettes of the people who

lost their lives or otherwise suffered at the hands of those who wished to stand in the way of voting rights for all American citizens. It was a moving tribute to the courage it took at that time for the black community to march in support of their “inalienable” rights as stated in the U.S. Constitution. A special thanks to Susan Frommer and Dani Weisse for their ongoing work empowering students to connect MKL’s legacy to LS and the present day.

The Select Ensemble Showcase Concert was Jan. 15th at 7:30 in the Auditorium.

The concert featured the Symphonic and Concert Jazz Ensembles (big bands), Select Jazz and Jazz Warrior Combos, student run a cappella group Musigals, and Chamber Singers. The jazz groups will be performing some of the music that we've been preparing for the Berklee College of Music High School Jazz Festival that takes place on January 31st.

Nancy Errico, Dennis Phillips, and Dave Walsh have been teaching staff the finer points of Google Apps for Education. Katie Garland will be using Google Classroom in her Modern British Literature class beginning next semester. Students will be able to turn in paperless assignments and Google Classroom will note who turned in what when. It also permits distribution of paperless assignments to students.

LS Alum ('14) Isaac Feldberg has an online movie review website called “We Got This Covered.” His reviews are informative and well written – please check them out. www.Wegotthiscovered.com

Fourteen students will be competing in the next round of Poetry Out Loud and they are: Kendall Dawson, Helen Rhines, Elise Hinkle, Leah Kanzer, Isabel Anderson, Mikala Nims, Caleb Martin-Rosenthal, Olivia Brown, Emily Thomas, Sam Granahan, Smaragda Chala, Caroline Marsh, Zoe Belge and Abby Wright. The next competition will be on January 30th in Bemis Hall, Lincoln, from 7:30pm to 9:30pm. Judges will include LS School Committee members Radha Gargeya and Patty Mostue as well as Colt Navin, manager of Cambridge Trust Co in Lincoln and Julia Moskowitz, former LS grad and teacher.

The Winter Show begins February 4th through February 7, at 7:30pm in Rogers Theatre. It will feature six comedic one-acts written by acclaimed playwright David Ives. Two of the plays will be directed by Paul Sarapas, and four will be directed by Carly Evans. The show features 47 student actors across the 6 one-acts, as well as 16 students on crew. The shows

are light-hearted and hilarious (and short!), and a welcome break during this stressful time of the year. Reservations can be made via the LSB box office at lsbtickets@gmail.com. Reservations are strongly encouraged, as the Rogers Theatre only seats 114 people!

Plans are underway for the Teach-In/Diversity Day on February 11th. Lori Hodin and Sandy Crawford are thoughtfully planning the event with assistance from all faculty.

The LSTA/LSPO Meet and Greet Coffee was held on January 15, 2015. The next LSTA/LSPO Meet and Greet Coffee will be held on March 3rd from 1:00 to 2:30pm in Conference Room B. It is a marvelous opportunity for teachers and parents to meet and converse. Thank you to the TA and the LSPO for establishing these meetings.

Student Representative Report

The senate has finalized proposals for the space and library committee. The proposals have been sent and we are looking forward to enacting these changes. The library committee is trying to develop a more quiet section of the library while the space committee is trying to create more designated study areas in the school. The library committee has also taken a role in making sure students of LS are respectful of the Sudbury town library during exam week by posting signs. In the upcoming meeting the Senate will take the yearbook picture and will discuss new endeavors for the second semester.

Teachers Association Report

Shawn Lingley reported that the last day of classes for first semester would be January 21st. Teachers are focusing on exams and will then turn their attention to the Teach-In Day on February 11, 2015.

Chairman's Report

Work continues on the FY16 Budget. A level service, 2.5% and 2% budget have all been prepared. The 2.5% budget will be an immense challenge with a \$715,000 shortfall which does not take into account contract negotiations underway with the Teachers' Association. There will be discussions with Sudbury and Lincoln Finance Committees to determine how the gap may be bridged. If not, teacher lay-offs will be unavoidable. The TA is requesting a \$175,000 Cost of Living Assessment. On February 3, 2015, the L-S School Committee will hold a public hearing on the FY16 Budget in Conference Room B. This is an opportunity for the public to ask questions of the School Committee.

The School Committee will vote to approve the budget on February 10th, 2015.

Liaison Reports

There were no liaison reports.

Superintendent's Report

Bella Wong presented the mid-year update on School Goals. There are four School Goals for 2014–2015: to revise the Core Values; to examine what L–S students should know before they graduate; to reflect on access to equity and excellence at LS; and to continue implementation of the educator evaluation system.

The Core Values of L–S are fostering caring and cooperative relationships, respect for human differences, pursuit of academic excellence, and cultivating community. These core values are the values by which we educate our students and the values which inform our administration, staff, and school committee. Academic excellence and cultivating community engendered much discussion among the Faculty and Staff working groups. As students become developmentally more sophisticated, the concept of community begins to expand. At L–S, we urge our students to think of their role as community members in a global setting.

In discussion regarding the second goal – what should L–S students know by the time they graduate – faculty have examined what the likely attributes of the future may be so that they may be adaptable and resilient and able to deal with a global economy, with global conflict. In this light, what are the essential core subjects and what are the essential attributes and skills? What are the desired habits of mind and how to develop resilience in dealing with changes and reversals? This is a goal that will not be settled or resolved in the present year but will be on teachers' minds. However, related initiatives include L–S's technology vision and plan for the future and professional development in everything from Google Documents to Virtual High Schools to a global scholars program.

Educators at L–S would like students to be equipped for globalization by developing a cultural proficiency that is supported by knowledge of other languages as well as by content knowledge and understanding of global concepts through history, geography, health, climate, social responsibility, conflict resolution, economics and the process of globalization itself.

Ms. Wong and other faculty are introducing a Global Scholar Program, a course of study whose objective will be to encourage students to draw global connections. The program will require a three-year commitment that includes social immersion in another culture, four years of language study, an increased community service requirement that exposes the student to another culture, and reflective essays at the end of each grade culminating in a presentation senior year.

The third goal is to reflect on access to equity and excellence within L-S. There have been a number of professional development opportunities to create a culturally responsive classroom. Achieving access to equity and excellence will require family engagement with L-S, instructional practices for tenacity and perseverance to encourage students to continue to strive, and informed decision-making to modify teaching practice to reflect on what students are actually learning.

The fourth school goal is continued implementation of the educator evaluation system. This is a goal of necessity that is challenging for evaluators as well as educators with comprehensive rubrics to follow that with repetition will become streamlined and less onerous.

Director of Finance and Operations Report

Patrick Collins reported on the FY16 Employee/Retiree Insurances Budget. L-S is a member of the Minuteman Nashoba Health Group. The group includes 17 participating governmental units in a self-funded risk pool with 7,700 covered members. It is a very cost effective way to provide health insurance. The portion of the FY16 budget allotted to employee/retiree insurance is just over \$2.9 million and that is the third largest cost of the district. Rates for this insurance are officially set in late February. L-S has assumed an increase of 6% for the FY16 Budget. Employee enrollment in the health plans (Fallon, Harvard Pilgrim Health, and Tufts) totals 165. There are 40 retirees currently enrolled in our health plans as they are not yet eligible for Medicare.

Mr. Collins presented the FY16 Capital Request to the School Committee and requested that it be voted on. Gerald Quirk moved that the District's FY16 capital budget request to the towns of Lincoln and Sudbury amounts to \$125,000 to upgrade the school's fire alarm notification system to include all necessary equipment, accessories, installation costs, and training. The \$125,000 request is apportioned in the amount of \$106,000 to Sudbury and \$18,400 to Lincoln. Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Information and Discussion

There was no information and discussion.

Action Items

Vote: EDCO Articles of Agreement.

Mr. Gargeya requested a motion to approve the EDCO Articles of Amendment so that two-thirds of the board would be necessary to approve collaborative commitments to capital expenditure. Elena Kleifges moved to approve the EDCO Articles of Amendment. Gerald Quirk seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Calendar

Civic Orchestra Concert	January 11, 2015
Sudbury Bd of Selectmen OPEB Meeting	January 13, 2015
Martin Luther King Day	January 19, 2015
LS School Committee Meeting	January 20, 2015
Second Quarter Ends	January 20, 2015
Mid-Year Exams	January 21-27, 2015

Adjournment

Radha Gargeya requested a motion to adjourn the meeting and to move to Executive Session. Elena Kleifges moved to adjourn the public meeting and move to Executive Session. Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Francy Zingale