

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

Tuesday, March 17, 2015

**7:30 p.m. Public Session
L-S Conference Room B**

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; Nancy Errico, Instructional Technology; Tara Mehta, Student Senate Representative; Robert Haarde, Sudbury Selectman.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes was postponed until the April 2nd School Committee Meeting.

Presentation

Nancy Errico reported on the present state of Educational Technology at L-S. She demonstrated a program called Kahoot that teachers can use in the classroom to encourage in-class participation. Teachers are able to assess student knowledge via digital classroom tools. All courses have a web presence that students may access. The English Department uses Google Classroom for paperless delivery and submission of assignments. It is possible to access audio and video presentations to hear Old English being spoken. The History Department uses Google Forms as an assessment tool. The Science Department accesses student feedback through digital programs. The Math Department uses Google Slides and is able to set up collaborative group work. The World Language Department curriculum is enhanced with Voice Thread, Kahoot, and can collect student feedback. The Wellness Department employs instructional videos and teaches students to monitor heart rate etc. via software.

Professional Development workshops have been developed to share use of technology in the classroom and have been well attended. A workshop exploring digital tools was held in February and there will be a Workshop Extravaganza held in May to share digital tools with the entire faculty. The digital tools assist teachers in reaching different

students in different ways. Ms. Errico is guiding the faculty and staff toward Gmail, Google Docs, and other Google Apps that are particularly useful as educational tools. Dennis Phillips, a member of the LS IT Department, is fully certified in Google Apps. Google Classroom is being tested in the Math and Computer Departments by Jim Berry. Katie Garland is learning to employ Google Apps in Modern British Literature. Lincoln Public Schools and Curtis Middle School in Sudbury are using Google Classroom so that assignments may be submitted and returned electronically.

In a recent student survey: 95% of students have a Google account, 82% are familiar with Google Docs, 51% are familiar with Google spreadsheets; 58% are most comfortable with Google email services, 80% are most familiar with Google presentation tools, 80% already use Google Apps, and 54% bring a computer device to school – either tablet, laptop or smart phone.

Nancy Errico and her team are planning a roll out of Google Apps for education beginning with summer 2015 work with changes from First Class email to Gmail within the school. There will be summer ED&E professional development workshops for educators with continuation of training and professional development opportunities during the Fall of 2015. Ms. Wong expressed her gratitude to Nancy for her vision and energy in moving the institution toward a Google App environment.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Recognitions

The World Language Department held World Language Week (March 9 through March 13th). The department and students posted signs indicating translations for proverbs, fun facts and useful phrases. The cafeteria featured menus reflecting a different language each day thanks to Samantha D'Angelo from Aramark.

The World Language Department will be presenting the annual Declamation Contest Finals on Thursday, March 19th during Block 4. Language students from all four languages and all 5 levels of study will be reciting a memorized poem or prose selection. There will be 21 students competing as finalists on Thursday. Davis Kornblum, Selina Seard, Zhongyi Zuo, Jessica Orofino, Olivia Elliot, Lucy Cousins, Tom Strandberg, Vivienne Feng, Adam Thompson, Isabel Anderson, Aiden Merrill-Skoloff, Dana Rubenstein, Mariah Prosansky, Duncan Hacker, Seth Joachim, Maddy Kline, Anelis Cruz, Isabel Anderson, Justin Liu, Savannah Snell, and Grace Chin. Wish them well when you see them!

Becca Gorman (E11) has been chosen to be part of "Seeds of Peace" this summer. She is one of 20 U.S. students chosen from among 600 applicants. "Seeds of Peace" is a camp in Maine recognized internationally for its work on conflict resolution. It brings together young people from areas of the world caught up in long-standing turmoil where

the idea of peace seems impossible. Teens gather at the camp to learn that “the enemy has a face”. Becca will be part of the Middle East group with teens from Israel, Jordan, Palestine, Iran, Iraq and Lebanon.

Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School Boys’ Hockey Team will be awarded the *James F. Mulloy Boys’ Ice Hockey Team Sportsmanship Award* for 2015. The award was presented at the state finals on March 15, 2015 at TD Garden. This award is presented to High School Hockey Programs that exemplify the sportsmanship qualities of the late James F. Mulloy, former head hockey coach at Everett High School, Malden Catholic High School and Dom Savio High School. Additionally, Ryan Dale – member of the boy’s hockey team, has been selected to participate in the Massachusetts State Hockey Coaches Association High School All-Star Classic. The game will be played at the DCU Center in Worcester on March 21st at 1:45pm. Ryan is one of only 46 players in the state of Massachusetts chosen to participate in this prestigious event.

The L-S Green Team is the US EPA Region 1 regional winner of the 2014 President’s Environmental Youth Award (PEYA). Eleanor Burke and the Green Team students have been invited to attend the 2015 Environmental Merit Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, April 22nd, at Faneuil Hall, Boston, MA at 1pm. At the ceremony, US EPA Region recognizes outstanding leaders in the environmental field. Evaluators had high praise for L-S’s outstanding student-created and managed environmental stewardship project that would have long term impacts on future students. They further said that using the energy audits as a fundraiser, while raising the awareness of other citizens on energy use, was very creative and fitting.

L-S Girls Track finished third in the nation at the 4x800 Relay in NYC this past weekend. Katherine Malone, Morgane Butler, Nicole Kerrigan and Ariel Keklak are the members of this remarkable relay. Henry Phelan is Coach for the Girls’ Track Team.

Tracy Burke and students from MLK Action Project have made two trips to the Boston Food Bank transporting food from donations collected at L-S, one more is planned for April 8th.

Student Representative Report

Tara Mehta reported that the Student Senate had sponsored Teacher/Staff Appreciation week with a staff breakfast and notes of appreciation to faculty and staff. The Senate is developing new initiatives surrounding promotion of diversity and cultural awareness. The Senate continues to look for study spaces for students within the school.

Teacher’s Association Report

Nancy Errico reported that Quarter 3 warnings would be issued on April 9th. MCAS exams are scheduled for March 24,25,and 26. Faculty meeting discussions have centered on racial climate at L-S and finding ways as educators to engage the students on these issues.

She noted the efforts of Caroline Han and Lori Hodin in organizing the discussions.

Chairman's Report

Radha Gargeya outlined the LS School Committee's response to two Open Meeting Law complaints filed by Mrs. Stahr dated February 15, 2015. He reported that the LS School Committee had not, in fact, violated Open Meeting Laws.

Mr. Gargeya reported on the March 6th meeting with Sudbury cost centers and the Sudbury Finance Committee. On March 9th, the Sudbury Finance Committee voted to add \$350,000 to the LS FY16 budget that will substantially close the gap toward the level service budget and reduce the impact on staff reductions. On March 10th, at a meeting of the Sudbury Board of Selectmen, an additional \$113,000 was added to the FY16 budget by voting unanimously to indefinitely postpone article #14 for the Rolling Stock Stabilization Fund in order to use the intended \$113,000 to reduce the amount of Free Cash needed to balance the budget.

Liaison Reports

There were no Liaison Reports.

Superintendent/Principal's Report

Bella Wong reviewed the impact on LS that would result from the funding for FY16 shortfall. She acknowledged the generous support of the Lincoln and Sudbury communities in their efforts to close the gap. While LS will not have to lay off current staff, the remaining shortfall will result in reduction of the school's capacity to maintain level service in FY16. Information regarding FY16 will be placed on the L-S website after March 24, 2015. Ms. Wong expressed her appreciation of Patrick Collins for his efforts with regard to the budget process. Nancy Marshall thanked both Ms. Wong and Mr. Collins for their efforts in guiding a budget process that has been clear and succinct.

Ms. Wong also provided an update of the Global Scholars program. Informational sessions have been held for students to acquaint them with the expectations of the program. Ms. Wong has also sent LS families a letter describing the program. She has found that students and families were excited about the program. The only cost associated with the program is the cost for the advisor stipend.

Director of Finance and Operations' Report

Patrick Collins reviewed the updated FY16 Budget Calendar. Mr. Collins updated the School Committee on a revenue recap of the FY16 budget.

Mr. Collins then introduced the establishment of a regional transportation revolving fund. Massachusetts General Laws have been amended to permit regional school districts to aggregate a year's worth of reimbursement monies to use as a budget figure for the upcoming year. He requested that the Committee vote to establish such a fund.

VOTE: Gerald Quirk moved “that the Committee vote to establish a regional transportation reimbursement revolving fund in accordance with MGL c. 71 Section 16C and Chapter 233 of the Acts of 2014.” Nancy Marshall seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

Information & Discussion

There was no information and discussion.

Action Items

The Teachers’ Association Contract 2015-2018 was signed by all members of the School Committee. Mr. Haarde, Sudbury Board of Selectmen, signed the contract representing the Towns of Lincoln and Sudbury.

An exchange Field Trip to France during April vacation was approved. Gerald Quirk moved to approve the Field Trip of LS students to France and Elena Kleifges seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Calendar of School Events

SERF College Fair	March 21, 2015
MCAS	March 24,25,26, 2015
Lincoln Town Meeting	March 28, 2015
Lincoln & Sudbury Town Elections	March 30, 2015
LS School Committee Meeting	April 2, 2015
Good Friday	April 3, 2015
Third Quarter Ends	April 7, 2015
LS School Committee Meeting	April 14, 2015

Adjourn

On a motion from Nancy Marshall to adjourn to Executive Session not to return to public session for the purpose of reviewing executive session minutes related to contract negotiations with non-union personnel and strategy with non-union personnel because to do so in public session would be detrimental to the District.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26pm. Elena Kleifges seconded the motion. All voted in favor through a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Francy Zingale

