

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

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

**6:30 p.m. Public Session
Room B**

L-S Conference

Present

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

Also present

Bella Wong, Superintendent/Principal; Peter Rowe, Interim Director of Finance and Operations; Steve Roderick, Past TA President; Caroline Singler, Current TA President; Samuel Weisman, Student; Cindy Fenichel, LS Parent

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Approval of Minutes

Radha Gargeya moved to approve the minutes of May 10th, 2016. Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. All approved except Nancy Marshall who abstained.

Radha Gargeya moved to approve the minutes of May 24th, 2016. Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. All were in favor except Patty Mostue who abstained.

Nancy Marshall moved to approve the minutes of June 7, 2016. Radha Gargeya seconded pending edits being made. There was no discussion. All were in favor except Gerald Quirk who abstained.

Presentation

There was no presentation.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Recognitions

The Game Change Partnership's End of Year celebration was hosted by State Attorney General Maura Healy and Patriots Owner Robert Kraft at Gillette Stadium on June 16th. Over 30 past and present members of the LS MVP Program with Lori Hodin, Tim Jason, Katy Garland, Chris Belmont, Mel Gonsalves, Humberlys Galindez, and Greg Gammons attended the event. LS alum Otto Zaccardo ('15) addressed the audience of teachers and students from across Massachusetts on the skills he had learned to recognize signs of abusive relationships from participating in the LS Mentors for Violence Prevention Program. Because he was trained by his peers and, in turn, trained other students, Otto felt a line communication had opened among his fellow students that provided a resource and avenue of assistance to students at risk. He believes that students having the courage to intervene with peers will make the most significant difference in changing the prevailing culture of relationship violence. Atty General Maura Healy has identified the LS MVP program as a model for nascent programs in the state. The LS program will train 40 new participants during the 2016-2017 school year. The LS alums spoke eloquently about using the skills they have learned at their respective colleges in an effort to continue addressing the troubling statistics regarding relationship violence. They will be promoting for the rest of their lives Malcolm Astley's exhortation that students have the courage to care for one another. Mr. Kraft added that "Winning is about working with all sorts of people. It is about listening, about respect, and about empathy – that is what leads to winning."

Amanda Klein has organized an Edge of Leadership trip for LS students for the past few years. Students are asked at the conferences "What can you do to improve the community at your school?" LS students determined to focus strengthening the ties between students and teachers by creating a day in which teachers could shadow a student schedule. Teacher responses ranged from "The transition from one class to another; it was very challenging to switch mindsets from one subject to another so quickly (Physically and Mentally.); "Making sure that everyone is reached, not necessarily everyone talks, but that everyone gets engaged in different ways." And "I think that it is really important for teachers to see what a day looks like for students. It is busy, dynamic, frustrating, and takes a lot of fortitude! I will definitely keep that in mind as I plan my future classes." The Teacher Shadow Day will continue next year for the third time. Congratulations to Amanda and her students for organizing this valuable experience.

The All-Star Rugby Tournament was held June 18 and 19th at West Point Military Academy and included teams from all over the northeast. Lincoln-Sudbury girls and boys were well represented and Brendan Wimberly coached the boys "A side" select side team this year!

LS girls chosen for the "A" side: Olivia Stuart, Shelley Liu, Casey Dion, Carolyn Hendry, and Christelle Saint Louis. Girls "B" side included Sam Carroll, Destiny Vidal, Suley Oller-Guerrera, Nia Williams and Ka'ree Horton.

Chosen for the boys “A” side are Ben Chunias, Jack Connelly, Brian Cooper, Sam Granahan, and Jack MacKeen. “B” side are Calvin Carmichael, Silvio Dionisotti and Andrew Marshall.

The following faculty and staff have retired at the close of the 2015-2016 school year: Mary Buonamico, Ace House Assistant; Patricia Burkhardt, Special Education; Shoshi Khan-Woods, Special Education; Bouke Noordzij, Math Teacher; Gail Nozik, School Nurse; Steven Roderick, Science Teacher; Alison Sanders-Fleming, Science Teacher; Silvana Stephen, Language Teacher; Beverly Weinberg, ACE Teacher.

37 teachers received end of the year ACE Awards from SERF: Nate Armistead, Gail Baker, Kate Berry, Vicky Caburian, Joan Campbell, Tim Cobbett, Karen D’Amore, Kayla DeWees, John Flynn, Greg Gammons, Jen Garfield, Kelly Gaudreau, David Grace, Tom Grandprey, Estee Hill, Julia Keith, Ken Kimura, Carol Lewis, Dan Lewis, Shawn Lingley, Tracie Lopez, Chris Malone, Elizabeth McClung, Angela Medeiros, BJ Pegram, Shara Pilch, Kevin Rossley, Chris Schutzer, Caroline Singler, Elaine Snyder, Christopher Stanek, Thomas Valentine, Matthew Warner, Seth Weiss, Matt Wentworth, Brendan Wimberly, South House Administrators. Well Done!

Matt Johnson finished tied for second (out of 60 golfers) at the New England High School Golf Championship with a score of 73! He had some near misses with the putter and played through the cold and harsh rains. Kathleen Thompson reported that Matt was a great representative for LS and that it was a pleasure to watch him play.

On June 8th, the METCO Program students met for dinner to celebrate graduating seniors. Also attending the dinner were Steve Desrosiers, Andrew Nyamekye, Carmen Rodi, Jamie Silbersweig, Lori Hodin, Toni Benhaim, Paul Sarapas, Caroline Han, and Melisa Shen.

The annual Pierce House luncheon was a wonderful affair with meaningful tributes to faculty and staff who are retiring. Thank you to Marci Stoda for organizing the event. Thank you to Departments for coordinating such fine send-offs for our retiring staff.

The Faculty Advisory Committee has held elections. The new members for two year terms are Tim Cobbett, Annalisa Notaro, Ann Kramer, Mike Malone (2nd term), Matt Warner and Danielle Weisse. They will be joining Tracie Lopez, Jen Reen, Dan Schuler and Kim Schultz.

Student Representative Report

There was no student representative report.

Teacher’s Association Report

Steve Roderick, out-going TA President, introduced Caroline Singler as the new TA President for 2016–2017. Tom Grandprey will be Vice President of the TA,

Allison Richardson has become the Secretary and Ben Coleman will be Treasurer for the coming year. Teachers will be busy this summer with professional development and ED&E workshops. Steve thanked the School Committee for their efforts on LS's behalf.

Chairman's Report

Elena Kleifges asked School Committee members to let her know which sub-committees and liaison positions they would like for the coming year.

VOTE: Nancy Marshall voted to "accept the subcommittee/liasion list as amended for 2016-2017." Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor.

Mrs. Kleifges also reminded the School Committee members that the Substance Abuse Policy must be updated.

Liaison Reports

Gerald Quirk informed the School Committee members of the OPEB Trustee meeting held the previous week. He thanked Peter Rowe and District Treasurer Stephen Cirillo for their expertise and familiarity with the process. The OPEB Trustees have identified KMS as the firm to conduct the next biannual audit. At the June 24th meeting, the Trustees heard presentations from firms that will could act as custodian of the trust assets and decided to retain PRIM, a firm that manages retirement funds and offers many investment options with a diverse investment portfolio. Funds in the LS OPEB Trust are expected to be invested in early September.

Superintendent/Principal's Report

Ms. Wong returned on June 27th from a trip to Helsinki with 53 other American educators. She participated in a panel discussion and facilitated another. Educators continue to study the Finnish education model that has had remarkable success in PISA tests. The schools in Finland are creating an environment, which maximizes student learning potential. The most recent practice is to provide 15 minutes of recreation after every 45 minutes of instruction, a practice that has resulted in a slightly longer school day.

Ms. Wong then met LS students and teacher-chaperones at The Hague for the Global Student Summit whose theme was Human Rights. LS Students joined

1500 other students from around the world to brainstorm on solutions to certain world problems. Olivia Brown from LS was on a finalist team that addressed an audience of 2,000 on the results of their work.

Ms. Wong reported on progress made on school goals for the 2015–2016 school year. The question “What do we want kids to do by the time they graduate?” was a through-year goal and the subject of discussion in faculty meetings and in Department meetings and has been the focus behind many school initiatives of the past year. Among the initiatives are the Global Scholar Program, the Center for Innovation, ensuring student access to equity and excellence, encouraging student leadership and parent engagement, and improving instructional practices.

Student gmail accounts will be open by July 1st and faculty and staff are fully converted and knowledgeable in Google Apps for Education thanks to Dennis Phillips, Dave Walsh, Aaron Schine, and Jim Berry. Architects have been interviewed for converting the White House Pre-School into an innovation hub. Faculty meetings have centered on principles of mindfulness, ED X exploration, and the tenets of **Most Likely To Succeed**.

Under the heading of ensuring access to equity and excellence: 9th grade diversity workshops, a panel on micro-aggressions, and student initiated clubs and meetings such as ASPIRE, the Autism Awareness Club, MLK Assembly, Women in Science, Girls Who Code, and Sister Circle are working to level the playing field for all students. Leadership opportunities for students abound with METCO mentoring, Student peer training and public panels, student attendance at Global Student Summits, MVP mentoring and training, to name a few.

Instructional practices are being examined and improved through the 9th Grade METCO strategic skills class, the Beacon Program, school interventions (including the hire of an intervention specialist who will be on board in September 2016) and Homework club. There is increased communication with parents by way of the house teams, the special program instructors such as ACE, EXCEL, REACH, LINK, METCO, and through the clinical counselors. Deserving special mention is Lynn Carlson who is the LS interface with all out of district students. Close examination of available data by faculty and administration to discover where gaps in instruction occur: GPA trends, attendance, and MCAS performance can provide information that can lead to

use of alternative pedagogical strategies for reaching students and improving the quality of learning.

The Student Services Department has worked diligently and effectively in the past two years to embrace and enact changes suggested in the Walker Report. Now part of the program are: 10th grade curriculum counseling; expansion of parent meetings and open houses; an updated website; the Beacon program; an expanded LINK program; reorganization of the ACE program; remaining current with and leveraging technology; student support team referral protocols; clarified entry/exit criteria for students requiring special services; and greater clarity on Individual Education Plans.

Other areas of work by faculty and administration for the past year have been: the solar array; discussion and evaluation of weighted GPA's; including FATA in the GPA; a redesign of the school profile; examination of the Metrowest Health Survey data; SEI endorsements; global travel involving teachers as chaperones; the student support team referral system; tracking professional development plans; gender neutral bathrooms; Narcan training; ways of addressing socio-emotional needs of students; FERPA brushup; developing a social media policy; safety drills – including a tornado drill; addressing school culture; presentations to the School Committee; Musical/Theatrical Productions; 35 Faculty Coaches; intergenerational activities; interface with the Park and Recreations Department of Sudbury; and committee to investigate vocational schools.

The goals for next year will be: the continuation of access to equity and excellence; what students should be able to do by the time they graduate; and how we as an institution can communicate and reinforce high expectations for our students.

Ms. Wong's personal goals are to work toward developing an action plan for performance gaps, finding additional opportunities to interact with faculty and staff as well as additional visits to classrooms next year.

Director of Finance and Operations' Report

Peter Rowe reported on progress made by the OPEB Trustees in their most recent meeting.

He further reported the transportation bid will be reopened on June 29th and that two companies were part of the pre-bid process.

Mr. Rowe requested a vote from the School Committee on the Annual Tuition Rate for students not part of the school district.

VOTE: Kevin Matthews moved “that the Annual Tuition rate for school year 2016–2017 be set at \$19,033. This is the most recent Per Pupil Expenditure figure compiled by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (FY15) for Lincoln–Sudbury Regional High School adjusted for inflation.” Nancy Marshall seconded the motion. There was no discussion and all were in favor.

Information & Discussion

There was no information and discussion.

Action Items

- Sign Vouchers #1050,1051
- Sign Payroll 6/15/16, 6/23/16

Other Business

There was no other business.

Calendar of School Events

LS School Committee Retreat	July 12, 2016
Teacher Workshop	August 29, 2016
9 th Grade Orientation	August 30, 2016
First Day All Students	August 31, 2016

Adjourn

On a motion from Gerald Quirk, seconded by Nancy Marshall, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Francy Zingale