LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES Tuesday, February 25, 2025

7:00PM REMOTE

Present

Ravi Simon, *Chair;* Cathie Bitter, *Vice Chair;* Maura Carty, Cara Endyke-Doran (absent), Kevin Matthews, Lucy Maulsby

Also Present

Damen Kelton, METCO Director
Meghan Notari, President of the Teachers' Association
Melanie Palma, Math Department Coordinator/ Math Teacher
Kirsteen Patterson, Director of Finance and Operations
Lissette Gil Sanchez, METCO Parent Representative
Mikhal Shvartsman, President of Student Senate
Andrew Stephens, LSRHS Superintendent/Principal

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM.

Public Comment

No Comment(s)

Student Senate Updates

Mikhal Shvartsman, President of Student Senate

- Mrs. Leslie Patterson, LS Administration and Mrs. Mary Warzynski, LS Parent recently presented the school's Strategic Plan to the Student Senate. The Student Senate provided feedback and asked questions.
- On Wednesday, March 5th, Mr. Stephens' attended a Student Senate meeting during ACA to address school matters.

METCO Program Report Updates

Lissette Gil Sanchez, METCO Parent Representative & Damen Kelton, METCO Director

- The METCO Leadership team continued to work on the admissions process for the incoming Boston students. As of right now, there are eight (8) incoming students from SPS and eleven (11) incoming students from LPS.
- LS Alums, Brothers, and State Representatives Christopher and Brian Worrell were honored at the 'Annual MLK Assembly' on Friday, February 14.
- The Boys' and Girls' Basketball teams finished with a 16 and 4 record in the state. Both teams advanced through to play at the MIAA State Tournaments.
- There were three METCO students who had the opportunity to travel to Germany for the 'Cold War' trip.
 - <u>Lissete Gil Sanchez:</u> "As a parent of one of those students, I want to emphasize the importance of experiential learning for students that normally would not be able to participate. From an equity perspective, it is important to give families that might not necessarily be able to participate in such trips, to really encourage financial support for the future."
- The 9th grade dance was held on Friday, February 28th.
- For all upcoming METCO events check out METCO's page on the LSRHS's website, as well as Instagram.

Teachers' Association Updates

Meghan Notari, President of the LSRHS's Teachers' Association

- "The Reality of Life Fair" was held on Friday, March 14 at 8:30am-3pm. Only the 12th graders participated by their 'houses'. Students made their way through a series of booths having to make life decisions. At the end, students checked in with financial advisors to determine if their decisions were beneficial.
- School Committee members discussed a couple of dates for the upcoming visit at LSRHS. The tentative dates for the visit will be Friday, April 4 or Friday, April 11. The School Committee and the Teachers' Association will continue to discuss further.

Presentation

Melanie Palma, Math Department Coordinator/ Math Teacher

Math Department Presentation

Math Department Presentation

 The School Committee appreciated the "Math Department's Presentation" provided by Melanie Palma. School Committee members discussed the use of student teacher assistants, the advantages and disadvantages of AI, the different math levels offered at LSRHS; in addition to 9th graders from LPS and SPS being prepared for the math curriculum at LSRHS. School Committee members continued to provide feedback and ask questions.

Chairperson and Liaison Updates

Chair's Update: Tri-District Meeting Planning

Ravi Simon, LSSC Chair

- Chair Ravi Simon updated the full committee on his informal meeting with the Chairs from Lincoln's and Sudbury's School Committee regarding an upcoming 'Tri-District' meeting with all school committee members.
 - The following agenda items were suggested as potential topics to discuss/review; Holidays on the school calendar, as well as 8th graders transitioning from LPS and SPS into LSRHS.
- LS School Committee members suggested the following topics at the upcoming 'Tri-District' meeting: The social-emotional aspects the MetroWest Survey identified. In addition to a continuum program for special education students.
- In the meantime, the Chairs of the School Committees welcome all feedback in making this upcoming meeting successful.

Policy Subcommittee

Lucy Maulsby, Chair of Policy Subcommittee Cara Endyke-Doran, Member of Policy Subcommittee & Maura Carty, Member of Policy Subcommittee

- The Policy Subcommittee met on Wednesday, January 29th to continue working through several policies, including the policies recently shared with the full committee.
- All previously mentioned and ongoing drafted policies are for informational purposes only:

<u>Informational Notice of Policies Under Review:</u>

- AC Nondiscrimination
- AC-R Declaration of Compliance
- BDA School Committee Organizational Meeting
- JIE Pregnancy Policy/Procedure
- KCD Donations and Fundraising
- DI Disposition of Funds

BGB - Policy Adoption

Policy Proposals/Amendments for First Reading

- Alicia Palmer collaborated with legal counsel to assist the Policy Subcommittee with the Title IX policies.
- Going forward, the Policy Subcommittee will discuss policies ACAB and ACGAsex-discrimination, non-discrimination, and anti-harassment procedures.
- The Policy Subcommittee will present all drafted policies to the full committee to discuss and seek approval for in the near future.
- The Policy Subcommittee plans to meet on Wednesday, March 12th to discuss and review the following policies: ACAB/Sex Discrimination; ACGA/Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Procedures Except for Title IX; and ILD research policies.

Regional Agreement Subcommittee

Lucy Maulsby, member of the Regional Agreement Subcommittee & Ravi Simon, member of the Regional Agreement Subcommittee

Memo to School Committee on Regional Agreement Review Process 2/23/25 Lincoln-Sudbury Regional School District Agreement

- On Wednesday, February 12, members of the Regional Agreement Subcommittee discussed a potential/ongoing process in amending the currently outdated Regional Agreement.
- Andrew Stephens and Kirsteen Patterson had a preliminary conversation with DESE regarding the current regional agreement to remain in compliance with the state law.
- Chair Ravi Simon shared with the full committee this process involves coordination with member towns (Lincoln and Sudbury) and DESE. The drafted Regional Agreement must be approved at both 'Town Meetings' in 2026; with DESE subsequently approving the drafted Regional Agreement.
- The committee agreed to ensure that meetings follow the same process as regular LSSC meetings, which includes sending a blast email to the community. Additionally, the committee acknowledges the importance of the LS Agreement Subcommittee and will record the meetings.

Information and Discussion

Review of LS School Committee protocols document

Maura Carty, *Member of the LSSC* Lucy Maulsby, *Member of the LSSC*

LSSC DRAFT Protocols

- School Committee members continued to discuss, review, and update the 'Protocols Document' previously discussed at the School Committee Workshop meeting.
- School Committee members agreed to further discuss, and vote for approval on the drafted protocols document at the next school committee meeting.

Discussion on updating LSSC non-discrimination statement

Ravi Simon, Chair of the LSSC

 Chair Ravi Simon suggested allowing the policy subcommittee to align a nondiscrimination statement within the non-discrimination policy. School Committee members agreed to move forward with the suggestion.

Discussion on LSSC statement condemning antisemitism

Ravi Simon, Chair of the LSSC

DRAFT LSSC Statement Condemning Antisemitism

 Chair Ravi Simon provided a drafted statement condemning anti-semitism to the full school committee to review, discuss, and seek approval for during the action items section.

Superintendent/Principal Updates

Andrew Stephens, LSRHS Superintendent/Principal

- The Advisory program will continue for another two years. The School Committee plans to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding on Advisory with the Teachers' Association.
- There was feedback provided from college admissions officers that the month of March is the best time to send an AP/GPA Survey. The AP Survey Group has been working to develop a survey to send out in a few weeks.
- Leslie Patterson and Andrew Stephens visited both Lincoln and Sudbury middle schools to meet with 8th graders on the scheduling process and options at LSRHS on Wednesday, 3/26 and Thursday, 3/27.
- On Thursday, March 5th Leslie Patterson hosted the '8th Grade Curriculum Night' at LSRHS to give parents/caregivers information on offerings and course selection process at LSRHS.
- The Senior Talent show will be held on Friday, March 14 at 6PM.
- The "Community Connections" group hosted a brief lecture from Dr. Samuel Meisel to discuss the increase in adolescents' anxiety and depression level on Monday, March 10th at 7pm in LSRHS's Lecture Hall.
- A number of talented LS students participated at the Harvard National Speech & Debate Tournament, another prestigious competition that attracts kids from all over the country.
 - Congratulations to LSRHS Juniors Farhan Khan and Tesu Ham, who nearly won. Both made it to the finals, ultimately placing 2nd out of 344 teams. Additionally, both earned top Speaker Awards--out of 688 total participants, Farhan was the #2 speaker and Tesu was the #6 speaker!

- Thank you Susan Frommer and Dani Weiss; as well as a number of students who
 organized "The MLK Assembly" to honor the spirit and legacy of Dr. King.
 - LSRHS welcomed two recipients, brothers and both L-S graduates,
 Christopher and Brian Worrell. Both have kept Dr. King's dream alive, serving their communities by holding public office and spoke about how their experiences at L-S helped to shape who they are today and the work they do. It was truly inspiring!
- Amanda Klein has been selected as the 2025 MAHPERD High School Physical Education Teacher of the Year! Amanda is incredibly deserving of this award and we are so proud to have her recognized at the state level. Congratulations Amanda!

Director of Finance and Operations

Kirsteen Patterson, Director of Finance and Operations

No Update(s)

Action Items:

- -VOTE: Ravi motioned to appoint Maura Carty as a member of the "Regional Agreement Subcommittee". Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.
- -VOTE: Maura Carty motioned to approve "The LS Competency Determination Presentation". Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.
- -VOTE: Ravi motioned to approve "The charge for the Regional Agreement District". Maura Carty seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.
- -VOTE: Ravi Simon motioned to approve "The Anti-Semitism Condemning Statement". Lucy Maulsby seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

The LSSC Minutes for January 28, 2025 were approved as read.

The LSSC Workshop Minutes for February 5, 2025 were approved as read.

The LSSC Minutes for February 11, 2025 were approved as read.

Public Comment

No Comment(s)

Adjournment

Lucy Maulsby motioned to adjourn the meeting. Maura Carty second the motion. Five(5) out of five(5) members of the School Committee were in favor via roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:18PM.