

LINCOLN-SADBURY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
Tuesday, February 24, 2026

7:00PM

REMOTE

Present

Ravi Simon, *Chair*, Cathie Bitter, *Vice Chair (Absent)*,
Maura Carty, Lucy Maulsby, Charles Morton, Jack Ryan

Also Present

Maureen Bolton, *LSRHS President of the Teachers' Association*
Susan Bottan, *LSRHS Interim Director of Finance and Operations*
Alexia Hultin, *LSRHS Student Senate*
Andrew Stephens, *LSRHS Superintendent/Principal*

Call to Order

Chair Ravi Simon called the meeting to order at 7:02PM.

Motion to Enter into Executive Session *with* Return to Open Meeting

Ravi Simon motioned to adjourn to executive session with return to open meeting to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body, and the chair so declares (#3). Jack Ryan seconded the motion. Five(5) out of five(5) members of the School Committee were in favor via roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:03PM.

Call to Order

Chair Ravi Simon called the meeting to order at 7:33PM

Public Comment

No Public Comment(s)

Consent Agenda

Ravi Simon, *Chair of LSSC*

- Approval of Minutes: [Minutes for February 10, 2026](#)
- Approval of Payroll & AP Warrant [FY26 Warrant 2.24.26.pdf](#)
- Approval of Athletics Donations [Athletics Donations](#)
- Approval of METCO Transportation Grant [METCO Transportation Grant](#)
- Approval of communication to the community regarding changes to the calendar, to be sent at the same time as the calendar is approved.

Jack Ryan motioned to approve the five(5) items on the 'Consent Agenda'. Maura Carty seconded the motion. Five(5) out of five(5) members of the School Committee were in favor via roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

(SEE ACTION ITEMS SECTION)

Student Senate Report

Alexia Hultin, *LSRHS Student Senate*

- The Student Senate created specialized support for post-secondary planning, focusing on college applications, to bridge the gap for students without external counselors.
- The next Student Senate meeting will be a 'bring a friend' event to promote an open forum for all students.
- A School Committee member inquired about the utilization of external counselors.
 - Alexia Hultin informed the School Committee that the current post-secondary planning support is limited to one or two brief meetings with the house office during Junior and Senior year.
 - The goal is to assist Juniors and Seniors in creating a detailed list of steps and tasks, similar to what a college counselor would provide, and to involve English or humanities teachers in editing college essays for specific feedback.

METCO Report

No Updates

Teachers' Association Updates

Maureen Bolton, *LSRHS Co-President of the Teachers' Association*

- School activities continue, including basketball tournaments and middle school outreach by the music and world language departments.
- Additionally, Susan Shields and students developed a prom boutique program focused on equity, inclusion, and environmental consciousness.

Presentations

FATA Department Presentation

Thomas Grandprey, Department Coordinator of the FATA Department

[FATA Department Presentation](#)

The School Committee appreciated the informative and thoughtful 'FATA' presentation provided by FATA's Department Coordinator Thomas Grandprey. The presentation offered insight into FATA's work, including its five sub-departments: Applied Tech, Music, Theater Arts, Visual Arts, and Media Arts.

The department's vision, developed last year, continues to guide FATA's daily activities. The courses can be described as creative problem-solving, emphasizing divergent thinking, trial and error, and empathy-building. The department highlights community building through teamwork in performing ensembles and the importance of self-expression and student agency in arts education.

Thomas Grandprey and the School Committee discussed advanced students being given the opportunity to participate in independent studies in a specific area, and combining different media in AP art.

The School Committee continued to provide feedback and ask questions.

Director of Finance and Operations Report

Susan Bottan, Interim Director of Finance and Operations

Quarter 2 Report

[FY26 Quarter 2 Financial Overview.pdf](#)

- Currently, the Quarter Two financial report forecasts a \$62,000 year-end balance.
- Revenue is projected to be \$300,000 over budget, with expenditures breaking even.
- Unanticipated growth came from out-of-district tuitions and special education transportation, alongside a shortfall in long-term substitutes.
 - Savings resulted from unfilled positions, increased circuit breaker reimbursement, and a property tax credit contribution.
- The district achieved a break-even budget without freezes, leveraging revolving funds and detailing solar savings in the report.

Solar Array Savings

[Solar Array Savings Summary \(2024 & 2025\)](#)

- School Committee members appreciated the report, noting its importance for showing the community their savings efforts.

Notice of FY25 E&D Certification

[Notice of FY25 E&D Certification](#)

- The school district is approaching its 5% E&D certification threshold of \$1,972,000, with \$467,000 remaining.
 - An additional \$300,000 in revenue would further reduce the buffer.
- A School Committee member questioned the target balance for the E&D fund with respect to the operating budget.
 - A recommendation was provided to review the historical usage and discuss the review with the finance subcommittee.

Confirmation of Approval received from DESE-Parking Revolving Account's Capital Expenditure

- The parking lot revolving fund started the year with \$380,000 and now has almost \$490,000, with \$350,000 projected for repaving.
 - Under the MGL statute, this allows direct payment for repaving.
- Susan Bottan suggested a 2.5% threshold as a good baseline, acknowledging that circumstances might require dipping below it.
 - This is especially relevant for period resets where state or federal revenue overrides have dissolved.

Superintendent/Principal Report

Andrew Stephens, *LSRHS Superintendent/Principal*

- Congratulations to LS staff, Jen Cameron, who refereed the women's hockey teams at the 'Olympics'.
- LS students and staff returned from a successful New Zealand Trip!
- The ongoing interview process for the Finance and Director of Operations position, with site visits scheduled for March 3rd and March 5th.
 - Andrew Stephens plans to provide the interview schedule for the two finalists to the School Committee members for additional feedback.
- Andrew Stephens discussed upcoming events: 8th-grade curriculum presentations at Lincoln and Sudbury schools, a curriculum night for incoming 9th graders, and a college fair facilitated by SERF, held on Saturday, March 14, 2026.
- The AP Test cancellation date is set for Sunday, March 1st.
- Community Scholarship information was shared with seniors and their families. The deadline to submit applications to Ms. Sharita is Friday, April 17th.
- Congratulations to the winter sports teams who made it to the playoffs.

Subcommittee, Liaison, and Representative Updates

Finance Subcommittee

Maura Carty, Cathy Bitter, and Jack Ryan

[LINCOLN SUDBURY 1978 RSDA MG - showing all changes as of January 29, 2026](#) - red-lined copy

- The 'Finance Subcommittee' updates included Susan Bottan and DESE advising the subcommittee to review revolving funds and set thresholds, with recommendations to follow.
- Anticipate the 'Finance Subcommittee' re-evaluating parking and exam fees to propose new rates to the full School Committee.

Regional Agreement Review Subcommittee

Ravi Simon, Maura Carty, Cathie Bitter, Lisa Kouchakdjian (Sudbury Select Board), and Kim Bodnar (Lincoln Select Board)

[-Amended Lincoln-Sudbury RHS Regional Agreement as of January 29, 2026](#) - clean copy of the amended agreement.

[-Regional Agreement: L-S Counsel Review of Changes](#)

[-February 12, 2026, Subcommittee Meeting Recorded Video:](#)

- Passcode: b%@d5JJG
- The 'Regional Agreement Review Subcommittee' met, discussed various topics, and received feedback from the Town Council.
- Anticipate an upcoming meeting to finalize the regional agreement, aiming for the School Committees' and Lincoln Select Board's approval.
 - The Town Council provided feedback, yet considered whether certain recommendations for a regional district contract are legally necessary and appropriate for inclusion.
- The School Committee engaged in discussions around keeping the language vague, as it has worked for the past 40 years, or specifying the end of the two annual town meetings.

Information and Discussion

Potential meeting on March 3rd or 4th to discuss HIAC recommendations and approve the Regional Agreement

LSRHS Superintendent/ Principal Andrew Stephens

- Lincoln Sudbury Regional School District is facing a significant health insurance premium increase next year and is exploring options to mitigate the change, including potentially increasing deductibles.
 - Anticipate a decision soon due to deadlines with the district's insurance provider- Borislow.
- Anticipate a special School Committee meeting planned for next week to discuss HIAC's recommendations and the regional agreement, ensuring a quorum can be met.

School Committee workshop scheduled for March 17

Chair of LSSC, Ravi Simon

- The School Committee is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at LSRHS for a goals check-in.
- The School Committee discussed whether the March 17th date for Sudbury is firm, given potential scheduling conflicts.

Draft 2026-2027 School Calendar (pending LSTA vote)

Chair of the LSSC, Ravi Simon

[DRAFT 2026-2027 School Calendar](#)

- A School Committee member provided feedback on the Professional Development days, particularly regarding a February decision, considering snow days and half-days for teacher conferences, which complicates busing.
- The School Committee discussed calendar adjustments, including potential disincentives for students missing school for early vacations.
- A School Committee member inquired about standardizing half-day dismissal times to noon for consistency, regardless of the specific day.
- The calendar will be revisited after an LSTA vote.

LSRSD Policies Third Reading & Discussion (3rd Reading)

Lucy Maulsby, Maura Carty, and Charles Morton

Policies third Reading & Discussion: [BGB - Policy Adoption](#) (policy adoption)

The following LSRSD policies sought approval:

- IMDA [IMDA \(Religious and Cultural Observances\)](#)
 - JH [JH \(Student Absences and Excuses\)](#)
 - BDCB (METCO Representation) [BCBD \(METCO Representation\)](#)
- The 'JH- Student Absences and Excuses' policy was updated to include specific references to doctors' appointments.

Lucy Maulsby motioned to approve the following 'LSRSD Policies IMDA, JH, and BDCB'. Jack Ryan seconded the motion. Five(5) out of five(5) members of the School Committee were in favor via roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously. (SEE ACTION ITEMS SECTION)

Action Items:

-VOTE: Jack Ryan motioned to approve the five (5) items on the 'Consent Agenda'. Maura Carty seconded the motion. Five(5) out of five(5) members of the School Committee were in favor via roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

-VOTE: Lucy Maulsby motioned to approve the following 'LSRSD Policies: IMDA, JH, and BDCB'. Jack Ryan seconded the motion. Five(5) out of five(5) members of the School Committee were in favor via roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

No Public Comment(s)

Adjournment

Ravi Simon motioned to adjourn the open meeting. Jack Ryan seconded the motion. Five(5) out of five(5) members of the School Committee were in favor via roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:29PM.