

**LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**390 LINCOLN ROAD**  
**SUDBURY, MASSACHUSETTS 01776-1409**

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August, 2008

Dear Parents/Guardians :

As many of you are aware, the budget process for FY09 (the 2008-2009 school year) was very difficult and the failure of the override in Sudbury required many difficult decisions and reductions. The Lincoln-Sudbury Regional School District Committee had accepted the Administration's plan for reductions, which included a proportionate reduction in the Athletics programs as well as a fee increase for participation. When the reality of these Athletic reductions settled in, an overwhelming number of parents with children participating in many different sports came forward to support finding alternatives to the reductions. They made some very compelling arguments. The School Committee was challenged with maintaining a balance that properly supported the instructional programs and needs as well as the athletics and activities that we all view as integral to the education of all students. In the end, the School Committee voted to increase the fee considerably to cover the cost to maintain the sports programs.

The Committee and the Administration recognize that the amount of the fee may result in a true financial hardship for some families. Guidelines and procedures for applying for financial assistance were developed and are consistent with those used in the Sudbury K-8 system where fee-based programs have also been implemented. The guidelines and procedures are necessary to create a consistent and fair method to determine financial need and the assistance that can be provided.

On the reverse of this page are the Federal Guidelines and the factors used to determine the Lincoln-Sudbury income guidelines for waiver and reduced fee categories. The Financial Assistance Application, with a description of the procedural guidelines and required documentation, is attached. If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact the Business Office at 978-443-9961.

Sincerely,

Judith M. Belliveau

Enclosure