

**LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
Tuesday, February 23, 2010**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Conference Room A  
L-S Regional High School**

**Present:** Radha Gargeya, Chair, Mark Collins, Vice-Chair, Nancy Marshall, Patty Mostue, and Berne Webb

Unable to be present: John Ryan

**Also present:** Scott Carpenter, Superintendent/Principal, Judy Belliveau, Director of Finance & Operations, Rami Alwan, Teachers' Association President, and Liz McDermott, Student Representative. The visitors listed on the sign-in sheet attached to the approved minutes of this meeting were also present.

**Agenda Enclosures/Handouts**

- Unapproved Minutes of the February 9, 2010 meeting
- The Sudbury Budget Scenarios, updated for the No Override at .42% instead of 0%.
- Lincoln-Sudbury Superintendent's Report for the Town Warrant, and LSRHS Summary of the budget for the Sudbury Town Warrant in the Finance Committee's format.
- Copy of PowerPoint presentation of the FY11 No Override Budget Impact presented by Scott Carpenter.
- Copy of the PowerPoint presentation of Quantitative Measures of Student Performance presented by Dr. Patty Mostue of the School Committee.
- Superintendent/Principal's Goals and Progress draft report.
- Copies of letters accompanying donations to the Speech and Debate Team and the National Ocean Science Bowl Team.

**I. Call to Order:** Radha Gargeya, Chair, called the public meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

**II. Public Comment - None**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

Patty Mostue made a motion to approve the minutes of January 26, 2010. Seconded by Nancy Marshall. The motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Presentation on Quantitative Measures of Student Performance**

Patty Mostue first acknowledged the work of Leslie Belcher, the Coordinator of Curriculum and Scheduling, and Donna Cakert, District Clerk, who provided all of the data that she used in preparing the presentation. Patty described the range of measures she analyzed – SAT 1, MCAS, Advanced Placement exams - and noted that L-S performed very favorably in all compared to the State and total

group scores. She also analyzed the overall acceptance rates at select top colleges and then L-S' acceptance rate at those schools. L-S had very high acceptance rates, denoting an understanding by those schools that L-S students are well prepared to meet their standards.

The presentation was a thorough and comprehensive analysis of L-S' performance on the major standardized tests.

## **V. Recognitions**

Scott Carpenter paid tribute to the following individuals and groups:

- First year head coach of wrestling, Taylor Kruse, has done a fantastic job with the team. Five students have qualified for All-States in wrestling: Dan Cmejla is state champion, Zach Smerlas is 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state, Nick Murphy is 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state, Carter Mode is 5<sup>th</sup> in the state and Eric Davis is 6<sup>th</sup> in the state.
- Boys' and girls' swim teams both came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Division 1 state meets. Ryan Shelley is state champion in diving.
- L-S is the league champion this winter in Nordic ski, boys' ice hockey, girls' ice hockey and girls' track. Girls' ice hockey, boys' ice hockey, boys' basketball and girls' basketball begin postseason this week.
- The Katrina Project, an offshoot of the MLK Action Project, went to New Orleans over February break to participate in Habitat for Humanity's efforts to rebuild the city. The eleven juniors and one senior who went, chaperoned by Brian Fauvel and J.K. Park, were: Greer Hunter, Sara ohlin, Carly Tyman, Sami Berry, Antonia Hylton, Kety Boyle, Connor Jacobson, Ben Sugg, Matt Migglionzi, Josh Haber, Garrett Bonney, and David McIvor.
- Matt Wentworth, a first year teacher, and Tom Danko took 12 MLK students to Philadelphia to work with Habitat for Humanity. The group finished their assigned work so quickly they were given additional jobs to do.
- An example of the really special qualities our staff have and their commitment to students was demonstrated over the break by Mark Perec. There was a student who had failed the MCAS and had to pass in order to graduate. Mark came in over the break to tutor the student and help with his test-taking skills to ensure that he passed, which he did.

## **V. Student Report**

Liz McDermott talked about the results of a student survey. She reported that students get information from iPass, the morning announcements, signs posted in hallways, and the Forum newspaper. Students reported that teachers do not read the morning announcements so they don't feel sufficiently informed and the students recommended a weekly e-mail solution. They reported that the food in the cafeteria was too healthy and they wanted to bring back some of the junk food. Students said they feel like L-S is losing its trust between the faculty and students as a result of the campus aides and harsher punishments; they wanted to know the reasons for the improvement in security. There was a short discussion of this item and it was noted that the punishments are not harsher – they have not changed – but more students are getting caught as a result of the additional campus aide. The aide was added because the loss of one housemaster made it too difficult for the remaining housemasters to manage all of their responsibilities with students, faculty and parents. Rami Alwan also noted that with the growing class sizes, teachers aren't able to connect with students as often in order to develop the kind of trusting relationships that are needed.

Other items reported by the students in the survey: Sophomores should be able to have Max-Ed cards; use of iPass should be mandatory; students spend most of their free time in the cafeteria, library

or going out; they should be able to eat in the halls and on the rugs (Scott Carpenter commented that the issue isn't the eating in the halls, it is the mess that is left behind and not cleaned up); they don't like having a short block elective during their full lunch.

#### **VI. Teachers' Association Report**

Rami Alwan talked a little more about the Philadelphia trip and how students shoveled out a bus that had slid off the road (there was about 3 feet of snow). Rami took 8 students on a trip to Belize and Guatemala where they spent 3 days exploring the Mayan culture and 5 days on the coral reef.

#### **VII. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman's Report and the Subcommittee report were merged.

#### **VIII. Subcommittee Report**

Radha Gargeya reported that the Evaluation Subcommittee, comprised of Patty Mostue and Radha Gargeya, met with Scott to review his goals, the school goals, and the status to date. He deferred to Scott to present it during "Information and Discussion".

#### **IX. Superintendent's Report**

Scott gave a PowerPoint presentation on the FY'11 No Override Impact, pointing out the number of FTE reductions that would have to be made, loss of ground in supplies, materials, texts and equipment, use of revolving fund reserves, and noting the burden already shifted to parents through fees. He provided a comparison to other districts in the level of fees and how it impacts families. L-S is the highest.

#### **X. Information and Discussion**

- **Continued Discussion of FY'11 Override and No Override Budgets**

The School Committee discussed the information presented by Scott and the burden on families. There was also concern about the class sizes and teacher loads, given the increase in both over the last several years, and the inability to keep up with the materials and supplies, especially if the projected increase in enrollment materializes.

Scott and Nancy Marshall noted several forums coming up that are intended to help the communities understand what it will mean if an override does or does not pass. The first is on February 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:15 to present to the senior citizens in Lincoln. There will be K-12 presentations on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM and on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM in Lincoln in the Hartwell Multipurpose Room. Dates for presentations in Sudbury are still being scheduled.

- **Discussion of Superintendent/Principal's Goals**

Scott went through each of his goals – Focus on Curricular and Pedagogical Improvements, Broaden the meaningful Involvement of All Stakeholders, Improve Communication, Improve Student Supports and Safety, and More Efficiently Manage the School During Tight Budgetary Times – in detail, identifying the deliverables and those individuals or groups who would be involved, as well as progress to date. Radha commented on the amount of work Scott did on the report and requested that School Committee members provide any feedback to him. He, Patty and Scott will then discuss the feedback and incorporate comments into a final report that will be shared.

**XI. Action Items**

• **Acceptance of Gifts/Grants**

The Brooks and Joan Fortune Family Foundation made a grant donation in the amount of \$1,000 to the Speech and Debate Team and a grant donation in the amount of \$1,500 to the National Ocean Science Bowl Team. These grants exceed the dollar amount in the School Committee policy that would allow the Superintendent/Principal to accept them, therefore the School Committee must vote to accept the donations. On a motion by Mark Collins, seconded by Nancy Marshall, the School Committee voted unanimously to accept the grants from the Brooks and Joan Fortune Family Foundation. Scott will write a “thank you” on behalf of the School Committee and the District.

**XII. Other Business**

Judy noted that the project to install a new press box will begin next week and may be completed in time to use this spring. The Conservation Commission made a determination as to the wetlands and there is no issue for the project.

**XIII. Bill Schedules**

The School Committee signed the accounts payable and payroll warrants.

**XIV. Calendar of School Events**

March 9, 2010	School Committee Meeting
March 27, 2010	Lincoln Town Meeting
March 29, 2010	Town-wide Elections
April 5, 2010	First Evening of Sudbury Town Meeting

**XV. Executive Session**

On a motion by Mark Collins, seconded by Patty Mostue, a roll call vote was taken and all members voted in the affirmative to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion potential litigation, not to return to Open Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Belliveau  
Director of Finance & Operations