

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

**Tuesday, December 20, 2011**

**6:00 p.m. Executive Session**

**Conference Room A**

Nancy Marshall called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**Present:** Nancy Marshall, Chair, Vice-Chair, Patty Mostue, Elena Kleifges, Mark Collins, and Kevin Matthews. Radha Gargeya was absent.

**Also Present:** Scott Carpenter, Superintendent/Principal and Judy Belliveau, Director of Finance & Operations.

**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 discussing matters related to collective bargaining which, if not discussed in Executive Session, could be detrimental to the District's position.

**7:30 p.m. Public Session**

**Conference Room B**

The School Committee returned to Public Session.

**Present:** Nancy Marshall, Chair, Vice-Chair, Patty Mostue, Elena Kleifges, Mark Collins, and Kevin Matthews. Radha Gargeya was absent.

**Also Present:** Scott Carpenter, Superintendent/Principal, Judy Belliveau, Director of Finance & Operations, Lisa Weiss, Teachers' Association President, Susan Frommer, Emeritus Teacher and MLK advisor, and Suzanne Burns, School Committee Secretary, as well as the visitors listed on the sign-in sheet attached to the approved minutes of this meeting, were also present.

**Agenda Enclosures/Handouts**

- **[SB: I was not sent the handouts, so could you fill this in?]**
- Extraordinary Relief Estimates

**Call to Order**

Nancy Marshall called the Public Meeting to order at 7:30pm.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for the December 13, 2011 were not available. Approval was postponed until next meeting.

### **MLK Presentation – Susan Frommer**

Susan Frommer presented to the School Committee on the Martin Luther King Action Project and the history of community service at L-S. Each student at L-S is required to perform a minimum of 15 hours of community service from the summer following 8th grade to the start of 12th grade. Her presentation reviewed how this program has developed over time, the different ways in which students fulfill these hours, what kind of service qualifies to be included, changes instituted over the years, and current plans to broaden student experiences, get them out of their comfort zones, make the program more effective, and fulfill the overall intent of the program which is to engage students with the community and broaden their sense of what that community is. Scott commended Susan on the presentation and her effective work in building this popular program.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Recognitions**

Scott recognized the following:

Congratulations to Tom Lopez who was selected as Division 1A Coach of the Year by The Boston Globe.

Vicky Caburian has been selected for the MIAA Distinguished Service Award for her incredible impact on the development and promotion of girls and women in sport. She will receive this recognition on Feb 3 during the Massachusetts Girls & Women in Sport Day ceremony at Fanueil Hall in Boston.

Scott acknowledged the Environmental Club for engaging 20 staff members to count and reduce electricity use hours in classrooms, gathering and tallying results, reporting to the ACE (Alliance for Climate Education) Biggest Energy Loser project.

The L-S clinical team ran its 15th annual Depression Workshop the week after Thanksgiving. This program educates students about signs and symptoms of depression, and how to look out for each other, through the use of real-life cases and discussion. In previous years, following the workshop, we have found an increase in the number of students who share concerns about at-risk peers with adults at L-S.

The program was updated this year into a two-hour session. The tenth grade class was split and half attended the morning session and the other half attended in the afternoon. Each two-hour

session was led by trained 11th and 12th grade Depression Workshop student leaders, as well as, counselors and clinical staff. Leaders worked with small groups (20-25 students) to teach a 35-40 minute lesson on depression and suicide, followed by a 35 minute DVD presentation from Children's Hospital's "Break Free From Depression". Following the screening, students reconvened in small groups to discuss the documentary.

The Clinicians involved were Sue Leichtman, Lynn Carlson, Jen Reen, Lindsey Hogan, Jill Coutu, Emily Phillips, John Ansty, Laura Fair, Chris Shutzer and Tegan Barson. The Depression Workshop student leaders were: Erin Santomenna, Zelda Rosen, Emma Jansen, Jahnea Johnson, Arianna Kerber, Mike Karon, Annie Loeb, Greg Dykes, Shannon Prenetta, Callie Flanagan, Katie Barker, Kim Heller, Charlotte Balogh, Aleks Kusik, Yarik Loban, Sophia Dee, Alexandra Braverman, Sofia Neri, Catherine MacKeen, Sam Sugg, Shumika Jean-Baptiste, Amanda Sifferien, Katelyn Muse and Hailey Rosenblatt.

Members of the Wellness and Counseling departments were part of an all-day curriculum training program on teen dating violence sponsored by REACH Beyond Domestic Violence. This training was made possible through a SERF grant.

Kudos to Tom Grandprey, the LS Music Department and students for a wonderful instrumental concert on Dec. 15th. Also, Tom Grandprey brought a select ensemble of students to perform at The Massachusetts Medical Society in Waltham on Monday.

On Thursday Dec 15th, 18 juniors and 2 staff members participated in a full day mediation training run by Karen Thomsen, Susan Shields and Lori Hodin. Students put forth impressive effort learning about the many facets of mediation. They discussed the nature of conflict, reflected on personal conflict resolution styles and practiced their mediation skills during a contentious role play. Students will continue to develop and hone their mediation skills in small group practice role plays so that they will be ready to serve as student mediators in the LS mediation program.

Scott also reported that there was a \$2,000 donation to the L-S music program from the Massachusetts Medical Association in gratitude for the student performance. Mark Collins motioned to accept the donation. Elena seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

### **Student Representative Report**

There was no report from the Student Representative.

### **Teachers' Association Report**

Lisa commented on the busy week at L-S. There is a lot of quizzing and testing as we get ready for break, then after break only two weeks of classes remain before exams.

### **METCO Representative Report**

There was no METCO report.

### **Chairman's Report**

Nancy reported that she has sent out copies of the Donations Policy with some new edits. A copy of the L-S Concussions Policy has also been sent out, along with a letter sent to Department of Public Health. She also reported that members of the School Committee participated in the first round of workshops with Sudbury and Lincoln's Finance Committees. There are a number of upcoming meetings, none of which interfere with School Committee meetings. She expressed her gratitude to Judy for all the work she did in making a lengthy budget document available for the Finance Committees to review. The Sudbury Finance Committee chair requested that Lincoln Public Schools, Sudbury Public Schools and L-S gather data about Special Education given the impact costs are having on all. Tom Conroy was in attendance at the Sudbury Finance Committee's first hearing on FY13 budgets and was also very interested in looking at a similar analysis. It was a good meeting.

Nancy also talked with the Sudbury Finance Committee at the budget hearing, and to the Finance Committee liaisons from both towns at a separate meeting about capital needs and how, in 1998 L-S apparently opted out of being a part of Sudbury's capital budget planning bylaw. This was the timeframe in which L-S was developing its plans for the new high school, possibly because many of the needs of the District needs would be addressed through the new school building project. It is important that L-S be factored into both Lincoln's and Sudbury's capital planning, given the building is now 8 years old and a significant capital asset to both towns..

### **Liaison Reports**

There were no liaison reports.

### **Superintendent/Principal's Report**

Following on Nancy's comments, Scott reported that we were complimented by the Sudbury FinCom for having such a strong a five-year capital plan. It was clear that they felt that it would be good to see something like this from the other town centers. He said it was important to him to develop a budget that includes a Capital Plan. Even though we are independently governed, we need to be included in each town's capital planning consideration, as we are with the operating budget.

Scott also updated the School Committee on Christmas decorations at L-S. He talked to the Senior Steering Committee about the need to be inclusive, and he felt the decorations were successful in that goal and reflected a little bit of everything. Feedback from the L-S community was very positive, and that the decorations policy contributed to the overall goal of supporting multiculturalism at L-S.

### **Information & Discussion**

#### **Donations Policy:**

The School Committee postponed approving the revised version of the Donations Policy until the next meeting.

**FY 12 Budget update:**

Judy was in contact directly with the DESE who worked through how the Extraordinary Relief program could benefit L-S. She distributed a document that included a second column, Net Claims for FY11, which is what reimbursement will be based on. We have to exceed this by 25% to qualify to apply for Extraordinary Relief, which we do. We are required to subtract the Circuit Breaker threshold for each tuition. The estimated potential reimbursable amount is \$631,000, subject to how many districts apply for funds and how DESE is able to distribute the funds. Right now, the deficit is about \$360,000 so it is likely that we would at least cover the deficit from the Extraordinary Relief program. If we receive more, we would use what we need it and carry over whatever we can of the Circuit Breaker funds we receive this year to help with the FY13 Special Education costs. Senator Tom Conroy wanted us to let him know when the time comes and he will advocate for us.

**FY 13 Budget Update:**

Judy said there were no updates.

**Capital Plan:**

Judy said there were no updates. Scott commended Judy on the work she did in pulling together the Capital Plan, and Judy had sent out an email to thank all department heads who had submitted their needs.

**Action Items**

There were no other action items.

**Other Business**

There were no other business items.

**Bill Schedules**

There were no warrants to sign.

**Calendar of School Events****Executive Session**

On a motion by Mark Collins, seconded by Elena Kleifges, a roll call vote was taken and all members voted in the affirmative to re-enter into Executive Session at 9:30 for the purpose of discussing matters related to collective bargaining which, if not discussed in Executive Session, could be detrimental to the District's position. The School Committee will adjourn from Executive Session and will not return to Public Session.