

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

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

7:30 p.m. Public Session

Conference Room B

Present: Nancy Marshall, Chair, Radha Gargeya, Vice-Chair, Kevin Matthews, Gerald Quirk and Elena Kleifges.

Absent: Patty Mostue.

Also Present: Scott Carpenter, Superintendent/Principal; Michael Connelly, Director of Finance & Operations; Lisa Weiss, TA Representative; Julia Thomas, Student Senate Representative; Elizabeth Darley, LSPO; Robert Harden, Steven Marshall, and Jay Gustaitis, Aramark; State Senator Michael Barrett; Rami Alwan; Virginia Blake, Math Dept; Anne Kenda, Sudbury Patch; Kevin Batt, Atty.

Agenda Enclosures/Handouts

Unapproved Minutes for January 8, 2013

Call to Order

Nancy Marshall called the Public Meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

Welcome

Nancy Marshall requested a motion to approve minutes for January 8, 2013. Elena Kleifges moved that the minutes be accepted, Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Nancy Marshall requested a motion to approve minutes for the January 14th, 2013 meeting with the Sudbury Board of Assessors. Elena Kleifges moved that the minutes be accepted and Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. All were in favor of accepting the Minutes of January 14, 2013.

Discussion

The January 14th meeting of the Sudbury Board of Assessors ended with the Board's support for the Solar Panel project. They need to determine the taxation policy on the solar canopy. Rami Alwan and Eleanor Burke attended a meeting with State Senator Jamie Eldridge over the weekend and Rami Alwan presented the tax issue. Senator Eldridge reported that a state representative had created a bill that would codify that a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) would be a good solution to the tax question. Kevin Batt, attorney on Solar Panel project, is prepared to submit a warrant for Sudbury Town Meeting. SunEdison is prepared to pay the tax on behalf of the school district.

The Department of Revenue has taken a literal reading of the exemption. Attorney Batt doubts that the Department of Revenue will shift to a different position but believes that their support for legislation will be important. Senator Barrett confirmed that the timeline for legislation on this subject would be 24 months. He added that it would be good if communications between community and Board of Assessors could result in a request for expedited process. Attorney Batt has collected information of towns that are similarly affected.

State Senator Michael Barrett recommended that remaining informed through the Department of Revenue would help work through legislation. Nancy Marshall reminded the Committee that our agreement with SunEdison must be concluded. Gerald Quirk restated that from the perspective of the contract, all open questions have been addressed. He hopes that the canopy will be constructed during the summer.

Kevin Batt pointed out language in the contract that indicated SunEdison presumed no tax would be issued on the Canopy and that the provider would notify the district on or before May 24th, 2013 of any changes in rates per kwh. After that date, the School Committee will have 30 days, or until June 24th, 2013, to decide to end the contract. Gerald Quirk suggested a motion to authorize Scott Carpenter to execute the contract on behalf of the school district pending final legal review of the terms of the contract. Nancy Marshall suggested calling a meeting for final review of the contract when SunEdison responds to the remaining issues. Nancy Marshall stated she would initiate a warrant for Town Meeting and that the deadline is January 30th, 2013.

Presentation

Robert Harden, Aramark Representative at LS; Steven Marshall, Aramark Regional Manager; Jay Gustaitis, Aramark District Manager.

Robert Harden presented current regulations for cafeterias, safety training procedures as well as marketing, activities and events undertaken by Aramark in the past few months. The LS cafeteria offers 25 different food items, from the burger bar, deli counter, salad bar, burrito bar, fruit and yogurt bar, and the made-to-order bar. Aramark offers gluten free breads and has found that the yogurt parfait and fruit bar is very popular as is the soup/salad bar. Aramark caters events at LS such as the Eastern District Junior Music Competition. They also supply food for the Senior Breakfast and Barbecues at the end of the year.

Regional Manager Steven Marshall reported on the new state regulations that govern school cafeterias. Beverage regulations mandate that only milk, water (unflavored and unsweetened), juices in 4 oz portions, and non-caffeinated beverages may be served. There are, in addition, significant calorie restrictions. Protein requirements are very different, grain requirements have definite minimums and maximums and trans fats are not allowed. The new guidelines have resulted in a decline in students participating in the food program. The biggest complaint is that the meat and bread portions are too small. Aramark has seen a drop of 160 meals purchased per day. The a la carte receipts have decreased \$400 per day because of snack restrictions. Aramark calculates that they are losing 5 or 6% of the school population. Students ordering food that is delivered to the school from the outside, however, has been increasing. Government restrictions have also affected the vending machines. Cost increases have resulted in the vending machines being moved out of the building.

Nancy Marshall inquired whether the USDA is aware of these changes and Michael Connelly asked if similar trends were reported nationwide. Jay Gustaitis replied that the changes were nationwide but that in communities where economic need is more significant, the decline in business is less severe. Aramark has suffered most from restrictions on the a la carte menu. Kevin Matthews asked if Aramark could continue to do business with cuts in profit of this magnitude. Mr. Gustaitis replied that it would require a different business model.

Robert Harden reported that there are daily staff safety meetings at LS and weekly assessments are conducted by the Aramark staff. The

LS cafeteria has passed all health inspections. Food Handler Safety Training is taken by all staff members. Robert Harden and the Lead Cook are Safe Certified. Aramark marketing efforts are focused on menu enhancement and promotion to increase student use of the cafeteria. The cafeteria participated in the 2012 Wellness Fair and Aramark solicits customer feedback through the Wellness Committee. Robert Harden related that portion sizes, particularly for athletes has been a problem. Aramark offers scholarships for students interested in a future in the hospitality business. Their green initiative seeks to reduce trash. Aramark also hosts the MLK Senior Dinner every year and assists in supplying the sports concessions stands.

Steven Marshall stated the difficulties of the calorie restriction guidelines. Athletes are not satisfied and then must purchase cafeteria food a la carte that adds to the cost, making food ordered from outside the building far more attractive. Jay Gustaitis observed that the loss leaders were the deli and the grill. The income LS derives from Aramark's contract is diminishing but fortunately there have been no demands for capital needs for the cafeteria.

Recognitions

Scott Carpenter recognized the efforts of the LSPO stress busters for providing stress relieving activities in the cafeteria between exams. It has provided a nice opportunity for students to take it easy and socialize between exams.

Desiree Butter, our new Spanish teacher is the faculty advisor for the WGBH Quiz Show students. The LS team has encountered Somerville High School during live taping at the WGBH studios in Boston. The LS team will go head to head with Brookline High School next. Participants are Justin Robbins, Ethan Blackwood, Callie Flanagan, Meredith Derecho with alternates Chase Levitt and Hannah Woolf. It is great to see one of our new faculty members take on this responsibility.

FELS and SERF Awards have arrived for staff in appreciation of their work. LS is thankful to the parents who make donations to these organizations. Twenty faculty members have received a FELS Award and seven faculty members have received an Ace Award from SERF.

MLK Day was celebrated at LS on January 15th. English teacher Danielle Weisse worked with the MLK group to illustrate the effect of Martin Luther King. Signs were placed around the school that limited students' freedom in some small way and were accompanied by a note

illustrating specific civil rights abuses. A table was set up to simulate a voting station in which students without an ID could not vote. It was thoughtfully done and educational for all.

Student Representative

Julia Thomas reported that the Student Senate was planning to organize a fall festival. The Student Senate will work with the Steering Committee to create a festival that will include music, sports, and the arts.

TA Representative

Lisa Weiss reported that it is exam week. During teacher workshop on Friday, teachers will work in teams to decide what should be offered next year. Sandy Crawford and Lisa Weiss have been working on language for the faculty evaluation portion of the LS contract negotiation.

METCO Representative

METCO Representative was not present.

Chair Report

Nancy Marshall has been in touch with all four state legislators who will meet with the School Committee at the end of February for a public Q&A with the town. The LS School Committee will be at the Lincoln Budget presentation on Wednesday, January 30th - the same day as the Suburban Coalition meeting.

Scott Carpenter will speak to the Lincoln PTO on Friday, February 1st at the Lincoln Town Library. Nancy Marshall will join him at that meeting.

Friends of LS Softball met last week. The town of Sudbury CIPC will have to amend the community field agreement to include the softball field.

Liaison Report

Radha Gargeya had no information yet on the meeting with technology advisors.

Superintendent Report

Scott Carpenter reported that he had had discussions with our state legislators. He suggested language that would help projects such as ours move forward.

The Administration Team met in retreat on Friday morning to discuss the evaluation system as it applies to administrators. They considered how to apply the evaluation system to a Principal, Director of Student Services, and Athletic Director among others.

Scott reported that he had completed a progress report for the Lincoln FinCom that included data analysis of aspects of interest to Lincoln such as how do Lincoln students fare at LS. Scott recognized the support of Donna Cakert, Leslie Belcher and Seth Weiss in assembling the data. Scott would like to present current trends relative to our peer communities. The data analysis dovetails with trends Rhonda Taft-Farrell has observed from the Director of Student Services point of view.

Action Items

Calendars from Lincoln-Sudbury, Sudbury Public Schools, and Lincoln Public Schools for School year 2013-2014 were compared. Sudbury Public Schools and Lincoln Public will begin school after Labor Day but Lincoln-Sudbury will begin before Labor Day. Lincoln-Sudbury students need to finish earlier in June because so many students are camp counselors or counselors in training. Our First Adventure program begins before school and is usually scheduled for the last week of August. A calendar beginning pre-Labor Day allows all classes to meet once before the long weekend so that when school resumes students are prepared to begin school in earnest.

Nancy Marshall requested a motion to accept the LS school calendar. Kevin Matthews put forward the motion and Gerald Quirk seconded it. All were in favor.

Bills

The Acceptable Use Policy was tabled.

Michael Connelly presented a Gift Acceptance form for a facilities request to replace Ransomes mower which would be purchased with funds donated by the LS Boosters Club, the Athletic Revolving Account and available Buildings and Grounds funds. The remainder of the cost of the mower would come from the Stabilization Account.

Nancy Marshall requested motions to accept the gift donations and approve the use of Stabilization Funds. Elena Kleifges moved to accept the donations and use of Stabilization Funds, Kevin Matthews seconded. All were in favor.

Other Business

Michael Connelly presented a Surplus Property memo from the media department to sell 8 TV's that are obsolete since LS has changed to LCD projectors. The property will be disposed of according to District regulations. Kevin Matthews moved to approve the Surplus Property request and Gerald Quirk seconded. All were in favor.

The Library has presented a Surplus Property Memo regarding books that have been culled from the collection. The library has a total of 2517 books that no longer belong in the collection. Gerald Quirk moved that the memo be approved and Elena Kleifges seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Calendar of Events

Junior Parents' Night	February 5, 2013
Lincoln FinCom Meeting	February 6, 2013
Suburban Coalition Meeting	February 6, 2013
School Committee Meeting	February 12, 2013
Winter Recess	February 19-22, 2013
School Committee Meeting	February 26, 2013

Adjournment

Nancy Marshall called for a motion to not adjourn to executive sessions. Elena Kleifges moved that the meeting be adjourned and Kevin Matthews seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Adjourned at 9:30pm