

**Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School
School Committee
March 27, 2018**

7:30pm

Conference Room B

Present

Kevin Matthews, Chair; Gerald Quirk, Vice-Chair; Radha Gargeya; Craig Gruber; Nancy Marshall; Patty Mostue

Also Present

Bella Wong, Superintendent/Principal; Sherry Kersey, Director of Finance and Operations; Caroline Singler, TA President; Paul Sarapas, Department Coordinator; Kerri Johnson, Student Senate; Carole Kasper, Lincoln parent; Ellen Joachim, Sudbury Parent; Paul Hamblton, Sudbury Parent.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 p.m.

Minutes

A motion was offered by Craig Gruber to approve the minutes of March 15th. The motion was seconded by Nancy Marshall. There was no discussion, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Presentation

Paul Sarapas, Department Coordinator for Fine Arts and Technical Arts presented a video on the many aspects of teaching FATA courses. He enumerated the many activities sponsored by the FATA department to showcase student art projects and musical and dramatic talent. Beginning May 7th and running through May 21st, the FATA Department would be hosting its Annual Celebrate Art Exhibit in the AB Connector. AP Studio Art will be exhibited during the FATA Open House on May 17th. There are ongoing musical events throughout the year and the LSB Players present numerous musical and dramatic shows each year. In addition, FATA faculty support endeavors in most departments at L-S including video, musical, student mural projects, the L-S Robotics team, and choral concerts.

Gerald Quirk asked Mr. Sarapas how the department responded to community feedback regarding enrollment in FATA courses and were there any accommodations that could be made to make FATA classes more broadly accessible. The committee

members had heard from the community that students found it difficult to experiment with FATA courses and wondered if elective courses were refreshed periodically - particularly the choral and instrumental music classes. Was it possible to offer more advanced music classes to students who wished to explore the subject further. Mr. Sarapas responded that he, Thomas Grandprey and Michael Bunting had been looking at peer schools to see if there were innovative ways to schedule classes to improve access to FATA and music classes. Their investigation includes conversations with community members and within the department. They have planned a summer working group to look at music offerings specifically.

Mr. Sarapas explained that the department offered courses on a rotating basis to allow for more variety. Introduction to Animation will be offered next school year and this year Graphic Design was new to the curriculum. The FATA faculty continues their own education to stay current with the latest trends in Art. A laser cutter purchased through a SERF grant is in use with students and computer-based instruments such as a 3-d printer and a CNC router are now part of the curriculum. New techniques are also introduced by the students themselves such as iphone videos which are now incorporated into the classroom. Music Theory has been offered but has always suffered from low enrollment. Ms. Wong added that there is now a new drama class called Devised Theatre which is a form of improvisational theatre.

With regard to the music department, course enrollment figures for school year 2018-2019 will be available after the April break. Mr. Grandprey and Mr. Bunting have visited the middle schools multiple times to recruit incoming 9th graders and informing the incoming students that there is, in fact, ample opportunity to fulfill computer technology requirements as well as FATA requirements and courses of interest within the 4 years at L-S. Mr. Matthews and Mr. Quirk expressed their concern that students be able to concentrate in their passions. The evening's presentations by Global Scholars illustrated that students often are not aware of gifts/interests they might have until they are exposed to a subject.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Student Senate Report

Kerri Johnson reported that the March snow days had impacted senate projects. The Student Senate plans to organize the 9th grade elections after the April break. Kevin Matthews inquired about the process of turning over the Student Senate to rising seniors at the end of the year. Ms. Johnson reported that 11th graders assumed a

number of leadership positions during their 11th grade year so that the transition was very smooth and led to experienced new Student Senate leaders the following year. Plans were underway for the Staff Appreciation Breakfast at the beginning of April.

Recognitions

LS student Lizzie Kleynerman (E11) competed in the 2018 Massachusetts State Championship for Gymnastics and placed 1st in the all around with a score of 37.925 in a field of 60 other gymnasts. In addition to her first place overall, Lizzie received Silver Medals for Floor and Beam routines, and bronze medals for Bars and Vault routines. She hopes to advance to the 2018 National Gymnastics Championships.

The documentary "***If They Had Known***" was screened at L-S on March 22nd at 7pm. The documentary is centered around the loss of Clay Soper, a 19-year old college student whose death was caused by a mix of prescription drugs and alcohol. The 30-minute film was followed by a panel discussion of L-S students, L-S alumni and faculty. L-S student Lizzy Murphy organized the screening and panel discussion to address the risks of today's dangerous party culture.

The winners of the 15th Annual World Language Declamation Contest were:

Level 1 - Maria Hamandi

Level 2 - Nicole Smith

Level 3 - Anthony Vuolo

Level 4 - William Stone

Level 5 - Elena Christenfeld

Grand Prize Winner - Eve Elkort who was also in Level Five.

Congratulations to all!

Laura Appleby finished first last week by a full two minutes to win girls Nordic Ski State Championship on February 27th at Berkshire East. Congratulations to Laura!

Maya Raghavan organized a Student Voices Panel for the Faculty Meeting on Wednesday, March 21. The purpose of Student Voices is to give marginalized students a chance to be heard by adults at L-S. The goal is that students and staff will come up with tools that can be used in the future to make classrooms and the school environment more welcoming to all.

Coach Brendan Wimberly reports that Nathan Baglin (2020) has been selected to the Maccabi USA U16 Rugby Team! The Maccabiah Games bring national delegations of Jewish athletes from all over the world to participate in a series of sport and athletic

competitions. Nathan and his USA teammates will spend almost two weeks competing in Haifa, Israel over the summer against teams from all over the world. This is a huge honor for Nathan to represent his country, his religion, and Lincoln-Sudbury. Please congratulate him if you see him!

The Accent Acapellalooza concert raised \$845.25 that was donated to Everytown.org which works to prevent gun violence.

Wellness teacher Amanda Klein has been given an Outstanding Adventure Practitioner Award by the High 5 Adventure Learning Center for 2018. High 5 is one of the premier practitioner training sites. They are trained facilitators, builders, and maintainers of adventure equipment. They have also developed an expertise experiential education which provides strategies for teaching in all curricula.

Members of the Memory Project returned home from Jordan after successfully delivering the portraits to the kids who are living in the Syrian refugee camps. A number of L-S students contribute to the project every year. The children were VERY touched by these special keepsakes. The Memory Project is based in Wisconsin.

Len Simon, Vice-Chair of the Sudbury Board of Selectmen, wrote to commend the L-S students on their recent march to end gun violence:

“I would like to commend the L-S students on the way they conducted themselves recently during the walkout to protest the gun violence epidemic. I spoke at some length about this problem at the Board of Selectmen's meeting last Tuesday night, and cited the courageous actions of the LS students. Would you be kind enough to let them know how proud I was to see young residents taking a constructive role in civic affairs? I hope they will continue to raise their voices and advocate for good government and safe communities.”

Anjuli Das, Julia Concannon, Nicole Garay, Kerstin Kelley, and Lucy Bergeron presented the Environmental Club's plastic reduction articles today and both passed by a vast majority! It has been a hard fought battle and the students have represented the LS community with poise and perseverance. Special supporters have been Mothers Out Front, St. Anne's, Green Sheep Water, and everyone at the Town of Lincoln offices. The club is looking forward to working with the communities of Sudbury and Lincoln to support these bylaws.

Diversity workshops for 9th graders will be held on Wednesday, March 28th, 7:50-11:00. 9th grade students should report to the auditorium at 7:50. Experienced

faculty working with trained 11th and 12th graders will facilitate 9th grade classes using research-based programming. Through engaging activities students will develop tools and shared language to have respectful conversations about human differences. Student leaders and teachers will model the persistence and commitment necessary to cultivate community in a diverse and democratic setting.

Twenty-two students from the L-S Model UN Club attended the annual National High School Model UN Conference in NYC from March 2nd-5th. Student delegates, faculty advisors, and chaperones from all over the US and the world attended the 44th annual conference which commenced with an Opening Ceremony at the General Assembly Hall of the UN Headquarters. L-S students represented China and Kuwait in various committees/commissions/regional bodies that addressed numerous current political, social, cultural, legal, environmental, and economic concerns. Students spent close to 20 hours debating, caucusing, and drafting working papers. Ultimately, they brought resolutions to the floor for voting. During the closing ceremony, Colton Chung, Andrew George, Ethan Minkoff, and Joseph Sziabowski spoke on behalf of their committees (UN Historical Security Council and UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) highlighting the work necessary to pass their resolutions. Colton Chung and Andrew George were recognized with the Best Delegates award for their outstanding leadership in their committee. This is the highest award delegates can receive in their committee. JK Park is the Faculty Advisor for the Model UN.

Twenty-one L-S students from the LS Model UN Club attended our fourth annual Boston College Model UN Conference which was held in Boston from March 16th-18th. For many of our students, this was their first high school Model UN conference. Over 600 students participated in wide-ranging committee offerings which all fit with this year's conference theme: "Adaptation in the Face of Adversity." The challenge of knowing how to respond to crises around the world presented students with options to respond in varying ways. Ethan Minkoff was recognized during the closing ceremony with an Honorable Mention Award in his committee for his excellent contribution throughout the weekend.

The first cohort of Global Scholars to graduate from the Global Scholars Program presented their capstone projects in the Auditorium earlier this evening. Displays of the projects were available for the public to see in the AB Connector. Many thanks to JK Park and David Grace who have worked with the students. The event was

well-attended and was combined with information about 2018-2019 student travel opportunities.

Self-Defense Graduation will take place on Monday, April 2nd in Gym 2 at 8am and at 10am. 34 L-S girls have learned how to set both verbal and physical boundaries. At the graduation, the students will be presented with real-life situations in which they will practice non-physical strategies as well as physical skills. Susan Shields teaches Self-Defense.

Teachers' Association Report

Caroline Singler reported that the LSPO had sponsored a dessert reception for faculty and staff and expressed her gratitude for the lovely events they created for the school staff. 8th Grade Parents' Night finally took place despite numerous snow cancellations. Conversations between Faculty and Students have been taking place as students fill out the Course Selection Requests for 2018-2019. Additional events have been preparing students for the Science Olympiad, thank you, Mary Brunson, and recent competitions attended by Warrior Robotics. Paul Shultz is the advisor for the Robotics Team. Advisor Chris Collins and the Environmental Team have prepared for and attended the Lincoln Town Meeting to continue to press for the single-use plastic bottle ban and associated plastic bag ban. This has entailed numerous meetings with Lincoln town organizations. Lastly, Hiring Committees are meeting with and interviewing candidates for positions in Wellness, Science, Latin, History, and Student Services for the next school year.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Matthews reported that he had attended the Mr. LS performance in the auditorium. That afternoon, the late bus for METCO Students was delayed for 3 hours. The school committee members agreed that there was a need to ensure that staff were available to make sure a similar incidence did not occur. The discussion then was directed toward the need to continually ensure that all students felt included in the fabric of the school.

Liaison Report

Nancy Marshall reported that German representatives of the PASCH Program visited LS on Wednesday, March 21st. L-S is a member of the PASCH Program and benefits from its programs. Ms. Marshall recommended that committee members read the Massachusetts Association of School Committee's online forum regarding transportation issues and how other schools were managing their transportation contracts.

On April 12th, FELS will be sponsoring an evening entitled “What’s the buzz about our health and wellness?” with Chris Collins as moderator. Participants will include local citizens involved in Beekeeping, organic farming, and alternative health practices.

Ms. Marshall suggested that creating an electronic file of the full LS School Committee’s Policy Manual be a project for the summer months so that a version can be online for next school year.

Superintendent’s Report

Ms. Wong reported on the METCO late bus delay. Members of the Administrative Team were on site and assisted the students waiting for the bus. 31 METCO students had participated in the Rugby program after school that afternoon. Ms. Wong sent a letter to Boston parents explaining the Friday late bus snafu and appreciated staff who assisted in solving the dilemma.

Ms Wong also expressed her gratitude to all staff and students for their flexibility in catching up after the extraordinary number of snow days in March. It has been difficult to maintain momentum in classes as a result.

Ms. Wong reported that a student trip to Iceland has been proposed and introduced to parents at the 8th Grade Parents’ Night. The trip will be exclusively for 9th grade students as an extension of the Earth Science curriculum.

Ms. Wong reported that LS had been visited by representatives of the German Foreign Office because L-S is a PASCH school one of nine high schools in the USA and many others globally. L-S is the only PASCH school in Massachusetts. Association with the Pasche Program gives L-S students many benefits including scholarships, internship opportunities and camp opportunities and expands students’ exposure to German culture. German is the second most widely spoken language in the world.

Lastly, Ms. Wong expressed her appreciation to the Town of Lincoln which approved the FY19 Budget and capital projects during its March 24th meeting.

Director of Finance and Operations Report

Ms. Kersey had nothing to report.

Information and Discussion

Nancy Marshall requested the School Committee members to read and edit the Excess and Deficiency Policy and send comments to her.

Gerald Quirk welcomed Carole Kasper and Ellen Joachim, the newly elected School Committee members, and expressed appreciation to all the candidates who threw their hat into the ring, and to members of the Committee for their focused stewardship of L-S and their ability to listen well and debate respectfully.

Action Items

Vouchers were signed.

LS Safety Review Subcommittee

Radha Gargeya reported on the planned formation of the LS Safety Review Subcommittee. Mr. Gargeya was grateful that so many members of the communities of Lincoln, Sudbury and Boston had applied to serve on the subcommittee and that it had been difficult to rank qualified applicants. Four community members have been chosen with 2 alternates. The mission of the subcommittee has been established and voted on at the last meeting. Appointment letters will be sent to those selected to serve on the subcommittee and a group email established. Open Meeting Law training for the participants will be part of the first meeting.

Members of the LS Safety Review Subcommittee are:

LS Administration Representative: Peter Elenbaas

LS Safety Council Representative: Lori Hodin

LS Faculty Member Representative: Chris Collins, with Caroline Singler as alternate

LS Special Education Representative: Aida Ramos

LS Student Representative: Allison Kim

Lincoln/Sudbury Police Representative: Chief Scott Nix, Sudbury

Lincoln/Sudbury Fire Dept. Representative: Chief Steven Carter, Lincoln

LS School Committee Members: Craig Gruber and Patty Mostue with Alternate Carole Kasper

Community Representatives:

Thomas Kenney

Christina Granahan

Jane Stewart

Paul Joseph

Paul Hambelton, Alternate

The LS Safety Review Subcommittee will meet weekly through June. Donna Cakert will swear in Subcommittee members at the beginning of the first meeting.

Vote: Gerald Quirk proposed a motion to approve the appointment of LS Safety Review Subcommittee members. Radha Gargeya seconded the motion. All were in favor. There was no discussion.

Calendar

Global Scholars Presentations	March 27, 2018
Good Friday	March 30, 2018
Film "Beyond Measure"	April 3, 2018
Jazz Night	April 5, 2018
3rd Quarter Ends	April 6, 2018
LS School Committee	April 10, 2018
Patriots' Day	April 16, 2018
Spring Recess	April 17-20, 2018

Adjournment

Craig Gruber presented a motion to adjourn the meeting, Patty Mostue seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Francy Zingale