

Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School Committee
Lincoln-Sudbury Safety Review Subcommittee
Minutes for April 12, 2018
Conference Room B

Present

Craig Gruber, LS School Committee Member; Patty Mostue, LS School Committee Member; Peter Elenbaas, LS Administrator; Caroline Singler, LS Faculty; Lori Hodin, LS Coordinator of Safe Schools Initiatives, Thomas Kenney, Sudbury resident; Aida Ramos, Director of Student Services, Christine Granahan, Sudbury Resident; Jane Stewart, Lincoln Resident; Paul Joseph, Boston resident; Allison Kim, LS Student Representative; Chief Scott Nix, Sudbury Police; Chief Steven Carter; Lincoln Fire Department; Paul Hambelton, Resident alternate; Carole Kasper, Member-Elect of LS School Committee, alternate.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm

Approval of minutes

Approval of the minutes for April 5, 2018, was tabled until the next meeting.

Public comment

There was no public comment.

Introduction of Committee Members and Their Concerns

Paul Hambelton - Difference between SPS K-8 security and L-S security

Aida Ramos - Mental health issues are my priority as Director of Student Services

Patty Mostue - Data analyst, member of school committee, Twenty-four year connection with L-S.

Scott Nix - Father, myself, my daughter, graduated here. Police want to support the school.

Caroline Singler - Twenty-year teacher, here to represent the staff and what staff thinks is important in the school, with an eye towards what students need

Thom Kenney - Resident, daughters and wife in school systems (K-12); seen a lot with respect to security

Paul Joseph - Alum, sister and alum, senior son this year. BPS officer, has seen much of what is done in BPS and believes that certain precautions are necessary to make sure kids can learn.

Christina Granahan - Has two children who've graduated; one here, one coming. A clinical psychologist who has worked in a neighboring school. Christina is interested in considering the different perspectives. I want to make sure we've done everything that is reasonable.

Ally Kim - 10th grade student; plans to represent students at L-S.

Steve Carter - fire chief in Lincoln; his nieces are graduates, I have been in EMS since 1978, I have been a chief since 1999. This is his third committee like this. I hope I can bring perspective. He has a background in homeland security.

Jane Stewart - A pediatrician in Boston, she is concerned with the mental health aspect of increased security measures.

Peter Elenbaas - Associate Principal, former Athletic Director; former teacher. He is responsible for campus safety. Father of students in 6th grade and 4th grade.

Lori Hodin - psychology teacher and with focus on social/emotional safety; interested in mental health issues in terms of both intervening to prevent escalation and understanding how people from different groups perceive their safety.

Carole Kasper - Has current LS 10th grader & 9th grader next year, 25+ years as management consultant, projects with New England police organizations balancing physical with social-emotional safety issues, various consulting experiences in military intelligence complex.

Kelly Finn - Sudbury resident with a 9th and 5th grader who would like to provide a parent perspective.

Craig Gruber - LSSC psychology PhD; military/security background; three children down to Kindergarten, would like to keep in mind a long view for safety at L-S.

Craig Gruber distributed an article on school shootings and the report of the 2007 L-S Safety Review Committee.

Member Discussion of L-S Safety Priorities

Scott Nix, Chief Sudbury Police

Scott Nix proposed an officer assigned to L-S to build relationships within the high school; ID's for staff and students; temporary ID for visitors; Officers have access control cards to school; cameras connected to the police station; and control of entrances and exits.

Patty Mostue

Recommends implementation of reasonable measures; no metal detectors but locked doors requiring buzzed in entry. Patty Mostue is most concerned with social-emotional issues.

Aida Ramos

Aida Ramos would like to increase support for students in need and additional staff working with them.

Paul Hambelton

Paul Hambelton suggested grouping recommendations based on costs. He suggested completing a camera surveillance system, use of identification badges, security officer (SRO) monitored entrances and adding of panic buttons so first responders would know more precisely where an active shooter was seen

Kelly Finn

Kelly Finn recommended assessing, and if necessary, improving methods for students to report their concerns about fellow students.

Carole Kasper

Carole Kasper recommended learning more about social-emotional support programs already implemented within L-S, learning about safety measures employed by our peer high schools, learning about the STARS program as a resource within NEMLEC, as well as having this safety sub-committee model equity within the work process.

Lori Hodin

Lori Hodin believes in fostering trusting relationships between each student and an adult in the school, building upstanders through the MVP program, and reconsidering ALICE Drills and other security measures.

Peter Elenbaas

Peter Elenbaas believes that maintaining student/staff connectedness, continuing an open campus that remains a vibrant center for L-S curriculum, co-curriculum and community-wide events, and enhancing existing security measures which differentiate between what makes the population feel safe and what actually increases safety are important.

Jane Stewart

Jane Stewart recommends optimizing safety without increasing anxiety and stress among the students. She believes that use of social media to become aware of student concerns might be helpful.

Steve Carter

Steve Carter suggested that strategies for safety exit routes, conversations with students regarding “See something, Say Something”, an anonymous tip line, and identification of students at risk should be a high priority.

Ally Kim

L-S student Ali Kim expressed her concerns that excessive use of security measures might make L-S seem like a prison. She believes that strategies for exit escapes are important and values student/teacher connections as important for all students.

Craig Gruber

Craig Gruber would like to enhance existing security measures and study what can be improved. He believes that studying data could determine what issues need to be addressed.

Christina Granahan

Christina Granahan believes that all stakeholders have relevant opinions and looks forward to hearing from them. She believes that a police officer on site provides students with an opportunity to develop a relationship with the local police and vice versa.

Paul Joseph

Paul Joseph is struck by the difference in security measures between the Boston schools and suburban schools such as L-S. He understands that there will always be students who are anxious about security measures.

Thom Kenney

Thom Kenney would like to evaluate current drills and security practices and believes in increased social media response/awareness and that inter-classroom communication during events is critical.

Caroline Singler

Caroline Singler hopes to maintain aspects of L-S and values its openness. She is concerned about the impact that increased safety measures may have on staff and students.

Discussion of draft outline

Aida will present an overview of educational/social-emotional supports currently in place, perhaps sharing written materials.

Review work of safety council - how ALICE works, documents can work their way into final product (Peter & Lori).

Comparison to 6-8 proposal for these things, perspective shift on safety (Christina volunteers). It is very different in Lincoln.

Chiefs to provide input into both of those.

We are working with high schoolers whom we need to provide for life after high school. It is very different task than that of lower grades.

Safety of teachers and staff should be a focus.

Public comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

Move to go into executive session

Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter Elenbaas