

OFFICIAL

LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

LINCOLN, RI 02865

DATE: May 15, 2006

TIME: 7:00pm – Monthly Meeting - Open

PLACE: Lincoln Town Hall

100 River Road, Lincoln, RI

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Jeffrey Weiss, Chair; Mary Ann Roll, Vice Chair; John Zangari, Clerk; John Lafleur, Betty Robson, Gerard St. Germain and Julie Zito.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: John Tindall-Gibson, Superintendent, Lori Miller, Georgia Fortunato, Angelo Mencucci, Ben Scungio, Bob Martin, Margaret Lemay, Connie O'Riley, and Mary Carvalho.

Weiss reported out that there were no votes taken in Executive Session.

Motion by Zangari to open meeting. Seconded by St. Germain. All in favor. Motion carried.

St. Germain asked a moment for privilege. On May 10th, at 10:15am,

Nicole Daniels, gave birth to Natalie who is 5 lbs., 9.5 ozs. Natalie is St. Germain's grand daughter.

Right to be Heard

Carol McCourt, parent from NELC, discussed the grade 1 position. She asked the Committee to revisit the issue after reaching 100 students.

Karen Tougas, NELC parent, discussed the grade 1 position. She handed out a projected grade 1 enrollment sheet.

Carol McCourt discussed the NELC administrator position. Last year at Northern, there were 52 suspensions. Central had two, Lonsdale had nine, Saylesville had nine. This year at Northern, there have been 39 to date. Central has three, Lonsdale has three or four, and Saylesville has six. She has been at Northern for the past seven years and these past two years have been the most controlled; it's been a great place to be; and the students know you don't mess around here. McCourt has asked the Committee members to spend a day at Northern and see the issues they deal with.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by St. Germain to approve April 10, 2006 Executive Session minutes and the April 10, 2006 Monthly Meeting minutes. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence – None

Superintendent's Report

Recognition of Students

Tindall-Gibson said it is our pleasure this evening to recognize a number of outstanding students in the Lincoln Public Schools. He introduced Bob Martin. He recognized the students in All State Band along with the Department Chair, Dave Enos. Roll read the students' names into the record: Katie Battistoni, 2005- 2006 All State Band French Horn; Casey Belisle, 2005 – 2006 All State Band Percussion; and Bryan Obara, 2005 – 2006 All State Band Trumpet.

Martin recognized a number of students for their superior performance on the American Mathematics Contest and qualification to take the American Invitational Mathematics Examination. These accomplishments, which is the largest number in the history of Lincoln High School, are due to the diligence of the students, and particularly, of the dedication of their advisor who is the Department Chair, Ms. Eilene Rapose. Robson read the students' names into the record: Elyse Macksoud, Swati Shah, Derek Brillon, Katie Battistoni, Erin Macro, Joey Huang, and Nikolay Korotkov.

Martin recognized the Future Business Leaders of America. They received 34 awards at the banquet. He introduced Cheryl Murray and George Kilsey as Co-Advisors. St. Germain introduced the officers of

Lincoln High School FBLA: Chris Hall, President & State Parliamentarian; Rob Mainelli, Co-Manager and State Treasurer; Emily Coutu, Vice

May 15, 2006

Page 2

President and State Secretary; Jen Hoard, Co-Manager; and Matthew Menard, Technology Director. St. Germain read 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th, place winners into the record. See attached.

Tindall-Gibson said we have an outstanding jump rope team in Lincoln and this year they went away to regional competition. Zito said Dennis MalBoeuf is the jump rope coach and she read the names into the record. (See attached).

Approval of Health & Wellness Policy

Roll spoke to this policy. In addition to the information in the Committee packets, she gave a little background/origin of this policy. She thanked the people who worked on the policy, Margaret Knowlton, Andrew Viverios, AJ Metcalf and Stephen Rodrigues, both high school students; Karen Monahan, a parent from Saylesville; a school nurse, PE department, SIT and PTO members. The policy is eight pages. The length in part is due to the fact that they had specific requirements that they had to meet. The requirements are spelled out

in state and national regulation. Part of the work was defined by requirements under the reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Act and by action taken by the Rhode Island General Assembly. Childhood obesity is a hot button issue, not just in RI, but throughout the country. It has been identified as the number one public health issue facing our country today.

Roll said if she were to estimate the impact of this policy, the largest impact, in terms of the nutrition piece, will be felt at the high school. But, it will also be felt by parents groups, booster clubs, etc. are all going to be asked to look at how we use food.

The other very important piece is the physical activity. When we sent this draft out for comment, a couple of the responses indicated to us the need to go by some additional guidance once this policy is in place. When we talk about physical activity, we are not just talking about physical education. You do not have to get to that through PE classes. We need to think about a variety of ways in which our children are encouraged to be physically active both during the school day, afterschool, and on their own time.

The other component is the fact that it requires the district to write the policy but then to create a district-wide school wellness committee or council that will be responsible not only for monitoring this at the district level but also to help the local schools implement that policy in a very meaningful way. Our policy said that each school

will be responsible for creating their own local wellness committee. The wellness committee at the local level will be responsible not only for students but mental health services, health services in general, and health education. Weiss said this is excellent. He does have an issue with a segment on page 7, entitled Physical Activity and Punishment. He is concerned that when coaches coach their team regularly, they ask the kids to drop and do push up and run laps and that's part of being a coach, unless we put an exclusion in for that we are restricting part of the coaching regimen. He also said teachers keep children in at recess as punishment. Weiss would like to get opinions from all secondary schools before having that in the policy. Lemay said we did have feedback regarding activity because it is not only used as punishment for one-on-one time with the teacher. We need to start looking at alternatives. We need to make sure the punishment matches what the issue is. Zangari agrees with Weiss on both issues. It's not going to mean that you have to do that; it just means, if you feel you have to, you can. Weiss brought up the comment "the teachers and school personnel will not". He feels "will not" are strong words. Weiss would like to change it or strike the language. Roll asked if we changed the word "will" to "should" does that deliver the message that we would like schools to look at how recess is used and to determine the effectiveness of it. The ideal should be that children should not lose recess on a regular basis for disciplinary reasons but if the school has, under circumstances that they are the best judge of, determines that that still has to be done of their tools because it is effective, that they could do that. Weiss asked

they could remove the paragraph from this reading. Roll believes it's an important piece. Weiss said this should not be the first reading. Zangari said we do not write a policy with the idea that it's ok to be ignored in some cases just because there is no punishment. We don't put a punishment on here because we expect all our people to follow the policy and we don't write it expecting that they won't. St. Germain would like the wording changed from "Physical activity and punishment" to "Physical activity should not be used as punishment." Zito asked about food and snacks offered at school functions. Roll said this will be long-term thinking and understanding we will be taking incremental steps. Weiss asked that Zangari and Roll work together and craft some language. Robson asked for Administrator input. Carvalho said best practice would be "to try" not remove recess. O'Riley said we should "encourage" teachers and educators not to use recess. Roll also suggested the word "routinely". Each school is going to be responsible for monitoring their own implementation of this such as including it in your school improvement plan. Our image of this would be your school improvement team would have a sub committee on wellness. Martin was asked his input. We wouldn't have much say in the afterschool activities. Beth Halliwell uses running laps, etc. as punishment.

Weiss

May 15, 2006

Page 3

asked if there was a motion to accept the policy with that sentence entirely stricken? Motion by Zangari. Seconded by St. Germain. Page 7, PE & Punishment. Zangari also pointed out PE should be removed because that is a subject. You cannot withhold a kid from that. Zangari modified motion to read Physical Activity, remove the word “and punishment”, remove the first sentence/paragraph, and leave the second one there. St. Germain seconded the amendment. It will read as follows: Physical activity – the school district and/or individual schools will provide information about the importance of daily physical activity for children to parents in a variety of formats on a regular basis. All in favor. Roll and Robson voted nay. Motion carried. Motion by St. Germain to approve the entire document. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor. Motion carried.

Review of Right To Be Heard

Tindall-Gibson reviewed the Right To Be Heard. Basically lays out the means by which members of the public can address the School Committee in session. Zangari wants 2nd paragraph, first sentence to read “agenda” items. He also wants Public Comment changed to Community Comment. St. Germain said teachers do not necessarily live in Lincoln and teachers have a vested interest in certain agenda items. That’s how it became Public Comment instead of Community Comment. Weiss said he spoke with Ben Scungio and feels the language is ok. Zangari also said Right To Be Heard should be on the agenda for every meeting. St. Germain asked if it could be broken down into three policies. Scungio said you could do that but the

descriptions are good. Zangari wanted to add that Public Comment and Right To Be Heard will occur at all Open Meetings. Weiss asked that Zangari and Scungio work on policy and make the next meeting the first reading. St. Germain suggested that the Committee get a copy prior to the meeting.

Review of School Committee Governance and Operations Policy Revision

Tindall-Gibson said policy BD, a single sheet, shows the agenda for a regular meeting and the only change is item #2 where Right To Be Heard is inserted. Zangari read the first sentence....The School Committee of the Town of Lincoln shall meet for the organization on the second Monday of the month next succeeding the biennial election of new members at 7:00pm. He said that would be December. This has not been updated since we went to the November elections. Scungio said that sentence is a reorganization meeting. Scungio said to use "January". Zangari also said three should be changed to four for a quorum members.

ELA Curriculum

Knowlton reviewed the ELA Grades K – 12 Curriculum that was the result of two years of hard work. She recognized Linda Newman and many teachers throughout the district. Theresa DeRiso, Kristen Jalbert, Pat Kilsey, Jim Morgan, Jay Schofield, Joyce Burlingame, Sean Cavanaugh, Yvette Coulombe, Linda Graff, Betty Russo, John Bruckner, Pat Santaniello, Jim Mancini, Gail L'Esperance, Sue Ayotte,

Charlene Legace, Brenda LeClerc, Margaret Rock, Tammy Vass, Michelle Carr, Joanne Caranci, Nancy Gallagher, Robert McLear, Lisa Peter, John Ryan, Kasia Kidd, Shelly Allard, Deborah Lyons, Maureen Powell, Nancy Andrews, Andrew Brochu, Debbie Jacobson, Donna Roland, Jessica Maccarone, Virginia St. Germain, Melinda Smith, Donna Salhany, and Kristen Vito-Silva. This curriculum contains content and performance standards under English Language Arts, Grade Level Expectations and Grade Span Expectations. Instructional strategies based on best practice and assessment. Textbooks over the last two years have been ordered and supplemental literature. Last year \$100K was spent on K – 6 getting them ready to implement this and this year, the middle school and high school spent about \$100K ordering materials. Knowlton is hopeful to roll this out in September. Weiss said John LaFleur’s name is missing. Roll asked if there was a State curriculum in English Language Arts? Martin said he heard from the State will be a voluntary compliance for statewide curriculum. Motion by St. Germain to approve. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor. Motion carried.

EdNets

Weiss read the motion “the Superintendent is authorized to negotiate with the assistance of legal counsel, a services agreement with EdNets.” RIDE shall have issued it Advisory and the Superintendent, with the assistance of legal counsel, shall have determined that the Services Agreement complies with the terms of the Advisory; and the School Committee shall have adopted the policy required under

R.I.G.L. 16-38.6 Motion by Zito to approve. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried.

Budget and Staffing

Weiss said we have a bottom budget that was approved by the Budget Board, the voters and the Town Council. It is now appropriate for the School Committee to allow the Superintendent to go through and come up with final recommendations on how he wants to do staffing across the district. Weiss asked the Committees' permission for the Superintendent to put something together for the next meeting and make his recommendations on what those changes will be. The next meeting is May 22, 2006.

May 15, 2006

Page 4

Schedules

Tindall-Gibson discussed the bus schedules. We had a committee that was headed up by Angelo Mencucci who is responsible for transportation. The committee is to look at how to bus students to the new middle school since it is a separate site. The change in start time recommendation accomplished a separation in picks up and drops offs in transporting between the middle school students and the high school students. It also caused a minimal amount of disruption for

half of the schools in the district because it didn't change their schedule very much. He recommends that we move ahead with this schedule for next year, however, during this discussion there was interest from different areas concerning what is the best time to start school. Tindall-Gibson recommends that we move forward with a broader committee when school starts up in the fall and have some public forums and give this a full venting in the community. We can think about revising this schedule for the following school year. If there are people who would like to participate in this study or be included on the committee, please contact the Superintendent's office. Zangari said it's possible next year that we may have a full-day K which will also change the bussing schedule. Roll said when the group came to us from the middle school with their recommendation for the middle school schedule, they were in unanimous agreement that the high school had a more serious issue.

Business Manager Report

Weiss asked to defer this to Monday, May 22, 2006 as the Business Manager is sick.

Civic Use of Buildings – None

Personnel

Resignations

a. Colleen Bonvegna From: Occupational Therapist - Systemside

25 Narragansett Blvd.

Portsmouth, RI 02871 Effective: May 1, 2006

b. Paul Cummings From: LTS English teacher – HS

77 Hope Street, #10

Providence, RI 02906 Effective: May 1, 2006

c. Kathleen Moylan From: 1.0 Social Studies – HS

22 Breeze Drive

Worcester, MA 01602 Effective: May 15, 2006

d. Erika Williams From: English teacher – HS

113 Eloise Terrace

Syracuse, NY 13207 Effective: June 21, 2006

Motion by St. Germain to approve. Seconded by Robson. All in favor.

Motion carried.

Leave of Absence Requests

a. Jennifer Belvin From: English teacher - HS

115 Sprague Hill Road Childrearing leave (unpaid)

Chepachet, RI 02814 Effective: 2006 – 2007 school year

b. Elinor DeOrsey From: Music teacher – HS

(medical

leave)

35 Jeannine Road January 3, 2005 to February 28, 2006 (paid)
Bellingham, MA 02010 Effective: March 1, 2006 to May 19, 2006
(unpaid)

c. Nicole Hallam From: PE/Health – Fairlawn
44 Arrowfield Road Maternity leave (paid)
Cranston, RI 02921 Effective: August 31, 2006 to October 6, 2006

May 15, 2006

Page 5

d. Stephanie Laplante From: Speech/Language Therapist – FELC
276 High Street Medical leave (paid)
Wakefield, RI 02879 Effective: April 24, 2006 to June 1, 2006

e. Beth Machado From: Grade 2 teacher – Northern
4 Mallard Cove Way Parental leave (unpaid)
Barrington, RI 02806 Effective: 2006 – 2007 school year

f. Erin Metivier From: Self-contained teacher – Central
1 Louise Ann Drive Childrearing leave (unpaid)
Smithfield, RI 02917 Effective: August 31, 2006 to January 26, 2007

**g. Robert Pearson From: Resource teacher – HS
7 Conway Drive Medical leave (paid)
Barrington, RI 02806 Effective: April 24, 2006 to May 26, 2006**

**h. Carol Silva From: Science teacher – HS
152 Woodbine Street Maternity leave (paid)
Cranston, RI 02910 Effective: October 12, 2006 to November 22,
2006**

**i. Bonnie Spano From: Resource teacher – Northern
32 Alexander Street Medical (paid)
Lincoln, RI 02865 Effective: April 27, 2006 to May 17, 2006**

**Motion by St. Germain to approve. Seconded by Robson. All in favor.
Motion carried.**

Teacher Appointments

**a. Kathleen Moylan To: .8 Social Studies – HS
22 Breeze Drive Effective: May 16, 2006
Worcester, MA 01602**

**Motion by St. Germain to approve. Seconded by Robson. All in favor.
Motion carried.**

SNAP Appointments

**a. Candyce Wingate To: Teacher Assistant – NELC
9 Shady Brook Circle Effective: June 27, 2006 to July 27, 2006
Manville, RI 02838 Salary: \$17.73/hr.**

Motion by Roll to approve. Seconded by Robson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Job Share Request

**a. Beth Halliwell
84 Buxton Street
North Smithfield, RI 02896 To: Grade 3 teachers – Central
Effective: 2006 – 2007 school year
Robin Ryan
12 Corrie Lane
Mapleville, RI 02839**

**Motion by Robson to approve. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor.
Motion carried.**

Awarding of Bids – None

May 15, 2006

Salary/Expense Warrants

School Payroll (Local Budget) 4/13/06	\$1,045,378.93	School Payroll
(Local Budget) 4/27/06	\$ 965,881.87	
Perkins Grant (867,868)	\$	Perkins Grant
Literacy	\$ 8,837.91	Literacy
Professional Development	\$	1,207.31 Professional
Development	\$	
Athletics	\$ (369.00)	SALT Regents Fellow
Class Size Reduction 815	\$ 5,394.23	Athletics
Title I 825	\$ 12,388.60	Class Size Reduction
Title II 866	\$ 480.00	Title I
IDEA Part B	\$ 30,033.28	Title II
Tuitions-ELC Preschool	\$ 125.00	IDEA Part B
Preschool Sec. 619	\$ 1,068.04	High School Reform
Title V	\$ 820.00	Preschool Sec. 619
Title III	\$ 205.00	Title V
TOTAL	\$ 1,105,569.30	TOTAL
		\$ 1,023,753.84

Motion to approve by St. Germain. Seconded by Zito. All in favor.

Motion carried.

Motion to approve by St. Germain. Seconded by Zito. All in favor.

Motion carried.

Invoices Paid in Advance	\$	
Capital Reserve Fund		
Invoices for Payment		
010 Operating Budget	\$	46,095.00
Total 2005 – 2006	\$	46,095.00
TOTAL	\$	46,095.00
Grand Total Invoices	\$	46,095.00

**Motion by St. Germain to approve. Seconded by Zito. All in favor.
Motion carried.**

EXPENSE WARRANTS – 5/15/06

Invoices Paid in Advance	\$	314,167.61
Invoices for Payment		
010 Operating Budget	\$	550,326.85
019 Professional Development	\$	3,652.14
802 Tuitions ELC Preschool	\$	111.94
804 USF Grant	\$	9,877.00
861 RI Skills Comm SLC	\$	1,593.60
868 Perkins Grant	\$	260.00

879 Title III	\$ 3,432.12
890 JANCI Grant	\$ 22,250.00
TOTAL	\$ 591,503.65

Grand Total Invoices \$ 905,671.36

Motion by St. Germaini to approve. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor. Zito recused herself. Motion carried.

Old Business – None

New Business

Reading of Amended Early Admissions Policy – 1st Reading

Tindall-Gibson read the policy Student's Entrance Age Early Admission JEBA. Motion by Zangari to approve. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried.

May 15, 2006

Page 7

School Committee Reports

Roll discussed her trip to Chicago, the NSBA conference. She went to a very good presentation by a woman who works with the West Palm Beach, FL school district in organizing data in a way that is very useful from Central Office down to the classroom involving a web-based software program. On Saturday, Weiss and Roll spent the

day at the Pell Center in Newport at the RIASSA conference. Weiss has been elected to serve on the Executive Board of RIASSA.

Community Comments

McComiskey congratulated the Committee on getting the budget passed. She said the primary motivation of the teachers at the NELC is not to preserve the position of a teacher but to ensure that the instruction made available for the first grade is a comparable level to that at FELC.

Kathy Murphy commented on what Carol McCourt brought up tonight about our Administrators at Northern. She has asked that each School Committee member go to their school, spend a week there, and see what truly goes on. Murphy would like them to base their decision on that.

Motion by St. Germain to recess to Executive Session. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor. Motion carried.

JOHN ZANGARI, CLERK DATE