

**OFFICIAL**

**LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**LINCOLN, RI 02865**

**DATE: February 13, 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, Julie Zito, John Lafleur, Jerry St. Germain, and Betty Robson.**

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: John Tindall-Gibson, Superintendent, Lori Miller, Georgia Fortunato, Angelo Mencucci, and Ben Scungio.**

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

**Right to be Heard**

**Weiss said there were four Right to be Heard requests and there is a 15 minute window.**

**Debra Jacobson/Caroline Sparhawk, grade 1 teacher at NELC,**

**requested the grade 1 classroom at NELC remain.**

**Sandra Laverdiere, a NELC SIT parent and volunteer, hopes neither the FELC nor NELC loses a classroom.**

**Karen Tougas, a concerned parent, does not want to lose a grade 1 classroom at NELC.**

**Weiss handed out a sheet comparison relative to FELC and NELC. He also handed out the sheets to the speakers of Right to be Heard. The issue is not whether we are reducing the level of support at NELC, but a very simple case of a substantial decline in student population as a result of the new law which changes the Kindergarten age. NELC has fairly small deviations from year to year, 3.5 students. FELC has fairly large deviations from year to year, 8.2 students. The projected class size for NELC next is 83.7 to 91 students and the class size at FELC is projected to go from 85 students to 101 students. With the variations at FELC from year to year, they could land up with as much as 17 students per class. They have decided to take one teacher from NELC. If the population doesn't work out that way, they can shift it around. The issue is they don't want to take two teachers which gives us no flexibility at all.**

**Judy Hadley explained a unique opportunity that she is involved with called BioBlitz. It is a 24-hour comprehensive biological inventory of all living species living on a particular parcel of land. The Rhode Island National History Survey is the major sponsor. It begins on June 9, 2006 at 3:00pm and ends on June 10, 2006 at 4:00pm.**

**St. Germain admonished himself for not interrupting Mrs. Hadley. Under Right to Be Heard, it was to be on subjects that are pertaining to that night's agenda only to give the people a right to speak before the School Committee votes. Any and all other subjects are to be addressed at the end of the meeting.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by St. Germain to approve amended January 9, 2006 Budget Workshop minutes, January 9, 2006 Monthly Meetings minutes, January 9, 2006 Executive Session minutes, amended January 11, 2006 Budget Workshop minutes, January 12, 2006 Budget Workshop minutes, January 17, 2006 Budget Workshop minutes, and January 23, 2006 Special Meeting minutes. Seconded by Robson. All in favor. Motion carried.**

### **Correspondence – None**

### **Superintendent's Report**

#### **School-wide Positive Support Initiative**

**Tindall-Gibson introduced Melinda Smith, FELC Principal. They are one of 16 schools piloting this program in Rhode Island. Smith introduced her leadership team – Susan Belshe, Paula Howard, Linda Ranney, Kim Gaustini, Nicole Hallam, Amy Shores, and Nicole Daniels. Belshe explained the program briefly. PBIS is about school-wide behavioral support. The program is designed to be**

preventative not reactive. It teaches social skills in context. It's a data base program. There are 7,000 schools involved nationally with PBIS. It was four days of workshops with more to come and a parent workshop is planned to introduce some of these ideas to parents. PBIS is designed to simplify and consolidate. It consolidates other school initiatives that might not be as effective as you would like them to be.

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### Full-Day Kindergarten Program

Tindall-Gibson introduced Margaret Lemay. She introduced members of the Kindergarten committee – Andre Brochu, Nicole Daniels, Lori DeSimone, Debbie Jacobson, Joyce Krabach, Kathleen McDonald, Angelo Mencucci, Kathleen Plante, MaryAnn Roll, Jerry St. Germain, Donna Salhany, Sandy St. Germain, Peg Schick, Melinda Smith, and MaryAnn Struble. The Committee split into a Program Committee and a Facilities Committee. A survey was sent home with every child in the elementary schools in Lincoln and also distributed the surveys to ten local pediatrician offices. 441 surveys were returned. 75% strongly agree with the statement LPSD should implement a full-day Kindergarten class, 12% somewhat agree, and 13% do not agree or did not have an opinion. Krabach discussed the rationale for a full-day kindergarten, Brochu discussed the curriculum

(reading/writer should happen every day); Smith discussed the staffing/class size projections; and Mencucci, DeSimone, Daniels, and Jacobson discussed the program based on a 232 student enrollment (three options). Lafleur asked if this was part of the NCLB. The State is not mandating full-day Kindergarten at this time. Weiss said nice job but obviously we could not do it this year because of the current situation with the new middle school. We cannot take on two major projects at once. Weiss asked if someone could put together a pro/con package of data so the School Committee can analyze it. St. Germain made a motion that we temporarily table and put on the agenda under Executive Session and General Meeting the subject that has come before this Committee this meeting. No one seconded the motion. Roll suggests that we look to the Strategic Planning process as a way of continuing the consideration by the School Committee and the large community who will be represented on that group. And that we allow the Strategic Planning Committee to lay out a process whereby, not the only the School Committee, but also the community as a whole can continue to look at this issue. Zangari like Plan 3 because it requires less money because of building and it separates into groups of three or four the grade levels. How long will Option 3 viable for? Zangari is glad this will not be voted on today. St. Germain motioned the Kindergarten program be put on the agenda for next month, both Executive Session and General Meeting, to discuss which of the three plans and how to proceed forward with getting community support for the plan that they have chosen and with the outlook of possibly targeting next year. Weiss asked why

should it be in Executive Session? St. Germain said it would be personnel issues, i.e., how many people to hire, ramifications on teacher levels and different schools that might have teacher transfers.

Approval of Director of Guidance job description – tabled. Roll asked to see the old and new job description.

### **Strategic Plan Update**

Margaret Lemay gave an update. They had a meeting on February 7th and broke into 4 groups. They analyzed the Action Plans and what things were actually accomplished and what were not. They are consolidating into a report right now and will be sharing it with members of the Strategic Planning Committee that will be meeting on March 17th. At the end of that, they will have a Strategic Plan with at least four goals/objectives identified.

### **2006 – 2007 Budget**

Fortunato was able to reduce staff by six. A breakdown is in the packet which represents .78 on the budget. Motion by St. Germain to approve. Seconded by Robson. All in favor but Zito asked for discussion. The reduction was taken at the middle school. Her special education staff had projected higher numbers. As Fortunato reviewed with each self-contained teacher, she was able to determine that the number of classrooms were lower. She was able to remove two teacher assistants, two resource teachers, and two self-contained

teachers. Motion carried.

Weiss said the question was if they could manage Northern with two administrators instead of three administrators given the number of classrooms. St. Germain cannot see an immediate need to replace the administrator at NELC because the assistant principals are extremely well experienced and the principal at the Northern side has a great deal of experience with neighborhood schools where she was ELC inclusive. Motion by St. Germain that we not replace the vacating position of the administrator for the NELC side. Seconded by Zangari. Seconded by Roll for discussion. She said we just listed to a full-day K presentation which focused on the value of maintaining the ELC as a separate entity. She believes we should ask the school what they would like to see. Zangari said when you say three to two, there will be two principals? Weiss said there will be two administrators. The composition of those administrators would be determined by the recommendation of the superintendent and how he thinks the building should run. Zangari referred to Option 3, showing library one and library two, meaning they are two separate schools. Robson agrees with Maryann and John that we should maintain that separateness with the understanding that it is going to be hard probably to find another administrator under such notice and we might have to go with a temporary measure of having one administrator and an assistant for a while. Zito said we cannot base a job based on a person. Zito said the Principal at the NELC isn't resigning until the end of June and wants to see what the Principal's

needs are. Weiss said we need to make a budgetary decision this evening. St. Germain wanted to amend his motion that Northern and NELC be operated under two administrators. Robson asked about the cost involved with the extra administrator involved in the Northern side; we have not done anything to amend our budget. Weiss would like someone to make a motion to reduce

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the administrative headcount in that building from three to two. Weiss asked the superintendent's thoughts. Tindall-Gibson offers that there is a little time to find out more information. Roll said is not opposed in cutting, contrary to Mr. St.Germain. She is not sure we need the two part-time assistants. She would like to see two full administrators, two principals, who are capable of managing the building, doing staff evaluations, and providing the educational leadership. Whether or not we need assistants is another question. St. Germain made a motion that said we have two administrators, one for Northern and one for the NELC building. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor except Zito and Robson voted nay. Zangari wants to make sure there are two principals, not one principal and one assistant. Weiss said there will be a presentation to the Budget Board on Wednesday evening that Tindall-Gibson will give.

**Request for use of E-Rate Funds**

**Miller said this is money that we get from the Government, the telephone funds. We are bringing it forward because we want you to give us the approval to use this money because apparently it is a separate fund in the audit for equipment and is \$17,000. It is a one-time item and it's not used for operating expenses. Motion by Zito to approve. Seconded by Robson. All in favor. Motion carried.**

### **Business Manager Report**

**Miller is projecting a \$10,000 positive variance. We are still showing a positive variance for substitutes. We have overspent \$11,000 in teacher coverages and part of it is because we got additional coverages from the teachers this year. We will have an issue with the health insurance. The certified retirement might be a little overspent because we pay salaries over the summer and the rate is going up. Transportation is showing a negative \$134,000, part of that is because the encumbrance is high. Tuitions are a little higher because another student went out of district recently.**

**Civic Use of Buildings – None**

### **Personnel Recommendations**

#### **Resignations**

**a. Robert Daniels From: Teacher Assistant – HS**

**20 Pearl Street**

**Manville, RI 02838 Effective: January 30, 2006**

**b. Joyce Krabach From: Principal – NELC  
411 Lloyd Avenue  
Providence, RI 02906 Effective: June 30, 2006**

**c. Guy Murgo From: Health/PE – HS  
617 Warren Avenue  
Swansea, MA 02777 Effective: February 21, 2006**

**Motion by Zangari to approve. Seconded by Robson. All in favor, except St. Germain recused himself from Daniels vote. Motion carried.**

#### **Leave of Absence Requests**

**a. Jill Harris From: Grade 2/3 S/C – Saylesville  
76 Holburn Avenue Personal leave (unpaid)  
Cranston, RI 02910 Effective: March 20, 2006 to end of s/y**

**b. Jo-Ann Madieros From: Teacher Assistant – Lonsdale  
106 Summer Street Unpaid leave  
Lincoln, RI 02865 Effective: March 16, 2006 to end of s/y**

**c. Maureen Powell From: Grade 2 – Lonsdale  
12 Medbury Road Medical (paid)  
North Attleboro, MA 02760 Effective: March 1, 2006 to March 17,  
2006**

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

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**Support Staff Appointment**

**a. Michelle Colburn To: 19 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Teacher Assistant – Central  
86 Pound Road Effective: January 24, 2006  
Cumberland, RI 02864 Salary: \$9.25/hr.**

**b. Karen Leopold To: 19 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Teacher Assistant – Fairlawn  
11 Boulevard Avenue Effective: January 9, 2006  
Lincoln, RI 02865 Salary: \$9.25/hr.**

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

**Long-Term Substitute Appointments**

**a. Kathleen Busam To: LTS Grade 4 teacher – Saylesville  
2 Karen Ann Drive Effective: February 27, 2006 to end of s/y  
Smithfield, RI 02917 Salary: \$16,213.05 (MA Step 1)**

**b. Michaela Dooley To: LTS Grade 2 teacher – Central  
18 Mussey Brook Road Effective: March 2, 2006 to end of s/y  
Manville, RI 02838 Salary: \$16,453.08 (MA Step 2)**

**c. Michael Ensslin To: LTS Art teacher – Saylesville  
150 Arnold Street Effective: December 23, 2005 to April 5, 2006  
Lincoln, RI 02865 Salary: \$15,397.14 (MA Step 4)**

**d. Lisa Simonelli To: LTS Int. Grade 1SPED – NELC  
310 Harrison Street Effective: February 28, 2006 to May 26, 2006  
North Kingstown, RI 02852 Salary: \$11,361.31 (BA Step 1)**

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

### **Teacher Layoff Notices**

**Superintendent read the Teacher Layoff Notices into the minutes.**

### **Awarding of Bids – None**

### **Salary Warrants**

### **Salary/Expense Warrants**

**School Payroll (Local Budget) 1/19/06 \$1,017,391.83 School Payroll**

**(Local Budget) 1/5/06 \$ 980,025.58**

**Perkins Grant (867,868) \$**

**Perkins Grant \$**

Literacy	\$	8,837.91	Literacy	\$	8,837.91
Professional Development	\$		Professional Development	\$	
Athletics	\$	861.00	SALT Regents Fellow	\$	
Class Size Reduction 815	\$	5,010.61	Athletics	\$	
Title I 825	\$	6,817.60	Class Size Reduction	\$	5,010.61
Title II 866	\$		Title I	\$	6,612.60
IDEA Part B	\$	26,325.75	Title II	\$	
High School Reform	\$		IDEA Part B	\$	24,651.44
Preschool Sec. 619	\$	1,068.04	High School Reform	\$	
Title V	\$		Preschool Sec. 619	\$	1,068.04
Title III	\$	328.00			
TOTAL	\$	1,066,640.74	TOTAL	\$	1,026,206.18

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

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

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**EXPENSE WARRANTS – 2/13/06**

**Invoices for Payment - Capital**

<b>010 General Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>33,200.00</b>
<b>Total 2005 – 2006 Invoices</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>33,200.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>33,200.00</b>

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

**EXPENSE WARRANTS – 2/13/06**

<b>Invoices Paid in Advance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>309.20</b>
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**Invoices for Payment**

<b>010 Operating Budget</b>		<b>\$1,443,828.85</b>
<b>019 Professional Development</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,903.37</b>
<b>802 Tuitions ELC</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>41.12</b>
<b>861 RI Skills Com</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>68.63</b>
<b>868 Perkins Grant</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,022.54</b>
<b>878 Title IV – Drug Free Sch.</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,800.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,453,164.51</b>

<b>Grand Total Invoices</b>	<b>\$1,453,473.71</b>
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**Motion by St. Germain to approve. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor.**

**Motion carried.**

**Motion by St. Germain to approve. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor, except Roll recused herself. Motion carried.**

**Old Business - None**

**New Business – None**

### **School Committee Reports**

**a. Kindergarten Full-Day Kindergarten. St. Germain reported out that the Sub-committee has finished their research.**

### **Community Comments**

**McComiskey is very disappointed in the decision not to revisit the first grade position at NELC. In terms of a point of clarification, she thinks when you look at the data, there are a couple of years where the numbers went down at NELC and up at FELC due to redistricting. She was happy that the Committee made a commitment to the fact that, if, in fact the numbers as they are projected, are not accurate and the numbers are fairly equal, they will be looking at adding a first grade teacher. She also thinks, as a Committee, they have to make a decision about their commitment to the ELC concept at the northern end of town. The discussion to eliminate the ELC principal as a**

**possibility while maintaining the assistant principals is very ill-advised.**

**Motion to adjourn by St. Germain. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor.**

**Motion carried.**

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**JOHN ZANGARI, CLERK      DATE**