

LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

LINCOLN, RI 02865

OFFICIAL

DATE: January 8, 2007

TIME: 7:40 pm - Monthly Meeting - Open

PLACE: Lincoln Town Hall

100 Old River Road, Lincoln RI

School Committee Members Present: Mary Ann Roll, Chair, Betty Robson, Vice Chair, John Zangari, Clerk, Richard Battistoni, Kristine Donabedian, Mary Varr, Julie Zito

Others Present: Joseph Nasif, Jr., Interim Superintendent, Georgia Fortunato, Lori Miller, Angelo Mencucci, Melinda Smith, Bob Martin

Opening Ceremony/Pledge of Allegiance

Reorganization/School Committee Appointments

Roll announced as outgoing Vice Chair she would take nominations for the position of Chair. Motion by Zangari to nominate Roll as Chair. Seconded by Robson. All in favor. Motion carried.

As Chair Roll took nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Motion by Battistoni to nominate Robson as Vice Chair. Seconded by Donabedian. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Robson to nominate Zangari as Clerk. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Robson to seal the Executive Session minutes of January 8, 2006. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried.

Right to be Heard - None.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Zangari to approve December 11, 2006 Executive Session Minutes. Seconded by Zito. Motion carried with Battistoni, Donabedian, Varr abstaining.

Motion by Robson to approve December 11, 2006 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Zito. Motion carried with Battistoni, Donabedian, Varr abstaining.

Donabedian requested amending December 19, 2006 Special Meeting Minutes making her absent. Motion by Robson to approve the December 19, 2006 Special Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Zito. Motion carried with Battistoni, Donabedian, Varr abstaining.

Correspondence - None.

Superintendent's Report

Division III Girls Soccer Recognition

Interim Superintendent Nasif explained recognition will be a regular item on the agenda where either a school or the accomplishment of students within the school system will be highlighted. He noted the girls on the soccer team are outstanding in both academics and athletics. He introduced Principal Martin who recognized the students. Roll and Robson presented the girls with a certificate. Martin also extended appreciation o the parents who attended all the games.

Curriculum, Assessment, Instruction Update

The Interim Superintendent requested this be put off to later in the meeting.

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Financial Report Update

Lori Miller explained she would review the information briefly and everyone could review it in depth on their own. She is projecting a possible \$10,000 variance; there will be a deficit in the employment benefits. She will know better in the supplies and material line in another month. In the classroom salary line they are only at 32% but that is because teachers are paid over the summer. There is a

\$97,000 variance in the non-certified retirements, and a \$50,000 deficit is expected. They just completed the audit for workers comp with a negative \$8,000 and the property insurance will be a negative \$15,780. In other accounts, there is a positive variance in tuitions for \$130,000. Fortunato noted there are a variety of factors, and a number of services are needed when keeping a student in the district.

Purchased services is running a negative variance of \$119,000. Miller noted the electric and fuel lines are okay due to the warm weather. Office equipment has a negative variance of \$7,600 due to the radios at the middle schools that were unbudgeted. A copy of the audit report was in the packet.

Construction Update

Zangari asked when they will be taking over the building. Angelo Mencucci explained they have taken over the building but that Gilbane Services will remain for another two months as part of their contract to complete the punch list and change orders. Roll reported a transition meeting was held with the construction committee. There will be a walk through prior to the end of the 12 month warranty period. She recognized Mencucci for his work. In answer to a question on Lonsdale, Mencucci reported there is a retention area that needs to be regraded and additional sound battening material needs to be installed in the multi-purpose room. He has a cost of a \$17,000 for a manufactured window and \$7,000 for a non-manufactured window for the multi-purpose window that will be on his capital list.

Director for Student Services Job Description

The Interim Superintendent reported the job description is the one prior to the committee adding responsibility for the business department and human resources under Ms. Fortunato's purview. As of June when Fortunato becomes Superintendent, it is vital to get the best possible person for the Director for Student Services position. Motion by Zangari to approve the Director for Student Services job description. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried. It was clarified that this is a special education administrator (as opposed to supervisor) position.

Civil Use of Buildings - None.

Personnel Recommendations

Appointments

- a. Marlene Bettencourt To: LTS Teacher Assistant
1045 Smithfield Avenue Effective: September 7, 2006
Lincoln, RI 02865 Salary: \$14.61- 15.11/hr (Step 1)**

- b. Melissa Dubois To: LTS Teacher Assistant
181 River Road Effective: September 5, 2006
Lincoln, RI 02865 Salary: \$14.61-\$15.11/hr (Step 1)**

- c. Eleanor Kogut To: LTS 1.0 Science Teacher - LHS**

**PO Box 3182 Effective: October 27, 2006 - March 21, 2007
Woonsocket, RI 02895 Salary: \$34,585.45 (MA +30, Step 10)**

**d. Marilyn Kelley To: LTS 1.0 Psychologist - Northern & Northern
ELC**

**44 Top Hill Rd. Effective: January 20 - May 25, 2007
Saunderstown, RI 02874 Salary: \$24,659 (MA+30, Step 8)**

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**e. Courtney Lemoie To: LTS 1.0 K - NECLS
10 Bradford Drive Effective: March 5 - June 8, 2007
Lincoln, RI 02865 Salary: \$12,746.42 (BA, Sep 1)**

**f. Anthony Napoleoni, Sr. To: LTS 1.0 Tech Ed Teacher
23 Arlington Avenue Effective: December through end of school
year
Cranston, RI 02920 Salary: \$12,746.42 (BA, Step 1)**

**g. Kristen Plant To: LTS 1.0 Gr. 4 - Central
76 Boulder Drive Effective: January 16, 2007 - April 5, 2007
Barrington, NH 03825 Salary: \$10,723.18**

Motion by Zangari to approve. Seconded by Zito. All in favor.

Motion carried.

Winter Coach Appointments

a. Matthew Barboza To: Freshman Boys' Basketball Coach - LHS

265 Lippitt Avenue Effective: 2006 - 2007 school year

Cumberland, RI 02864 Salary: \$2,155

Motion by Zangari to approve. Seconded by Zito. All in favor.

Motion carried.

Resignations

a. Tracy J. D'Aloisio From: PT TA Gr. 1 - NELC

13 Foxwood Drive Effective: January 26, 2007

Lincoln, RI 02865

b. Diane E. Egan From: LTS School Psychologist - NELC/Northern

13 Black Alder Trail Effective: Immediately - resigned before start date

Saunderstown, RI 02874

c. Paul Schmitz From: IA Teacher - LHS

46 Canochet Rd. Effective: Immediately - resigned before start date

Hope Valley, RI 02832

d. Jill A. Teixeira From: Human Resources Coordinator

8 Plantation Drive Effective: January 2, 2007

Cumberland, RI 02864

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

Terminations

a. Darlene Rochon From: Payroll Clerk

123 Elder Street Effective December 11, 2006

Lincoln, RI 02865

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

Awarding of Bids - None.

Salary Warrants

December 7, 2006 \$1,150,273.95

Motion by Zito to approve. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor. Motion carried.

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December 21, 2006 \$1,123,674.50

Motion by Zangari to approve. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried.

Expense Warrants

January 8, 2007 \$715,567.56

Motion by Zito to approve. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor.

Motion carried.

Old Business - None.

New Business

LHS Classification

The Interim Superintendent reported there were some disappointments regarding the classification and that he notified parents of Lincoln High School students by-email. He noted that last year the high school was high performing with caution and this year labeled insufficient progress. A group went to the Department of Education and there was no change in the classification. Mr. Nasif reported that last year 20 out of 22 target indicators had been met and 21 out of 22 were met with the new scores; math special education and English special education are in need of improvement. Because of the deficiency two years in a row in the same category the results are insufficient progress. He noted results exceeded the state standards with 67.5% of the students being proficient in English language arts and 52.8% exceeded the math standards. He also noted Lincoln doesn't have the target group of 45 students, so the state uses a rolling average. Melinda Smith reported

on what was being done in the area of curriculum. She reported on the parent workshop and there are now Saturday workshops with a consultant for teachers. There are transitioning issues from grades 5 to 6 and 8 to the high school. New texts have been ordered for grades 8 and 9. At the high school there are issues in class size, materials, equipment and some scheduling issues. Peter Moreau, a retired math teacher, has been brought on for the middle school. The basic recommendations were for pacing, scheduling, transitions, increasing emphasis on skill acquisitions, trusting teacher's professional judgement, continued grade level articulation and quarterly benchmarks and develop common tasks for K-5.

Health Concerns

The Interim Superintendent reported Lincoln has had its share of health issues, including colds, coughs and even a case of pneumonia that turned into meningitis. That student is under a doctor's care and getting well. They have been teaching good hygiene with hand washing and covering their mouths when coughing. They are asking parents to let the school department know if absenteeism is due to more than a cold. The Governor signed an executive order to get liquid gel dispensers into the classrooms and submitted a request for 898 units. They received 297 with one refill. Roll reported getting information out to parents has come up in school safety discussions. She asked the committee to consider the idea of notifying parents in an emergency and there are a number of businesses that can notify parents within minutes. The Interim Superintendent reported

Warwick was able to notify 65,000 within ten to 15 minutes through cell phones, e-mail, phone and fax. Fortunato noted that Warwick had received a grant.

Budget 2007-2008

The Interim Superintendent passed out a skeleton summary of the budget. They need to hold a joint pre-budget hearing with the school committee and the town council. He noted new legislation, 44-5-2, to levy taxes has caps and this year it is 5.25%. There are certain exceptions, i.e. increases in health insurance, retirement contributions or utilities. This year's budget for '06-'07 is \$44,752,100, and if you apply the cap of 5.25% then the increase would be \$2,350,000 needed to fund the budget. The budget increase right now is \$3,332,000. The bulk of increases will fall in the category of new positions. Three budget hearings have been scheduled at the high school library from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. for January 22, 23 and 29th. The intent is to have building principals present their requests on the first evening, the whole administrative budget on the second evening and on the 3rd evening direction from the school committee to formulate the budget based on 5.25%. Roll reported meeting with other school districts last week and there isn't going to be any change in this law.

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The definition of mandates came up and there are legislative mandates and state regulatory mandates. Another discussion centered on the state formula and there will be a report coming out on February first. The Interim Superintendent noted that the cap goes from 5.25% to 4% in 2013. He also explained capital items will be identified and discussion will be held with the town as to how that will be budgeted. Roll noted they have to look at their needs and work together. Battistoni asked to clarify the budget process and it was explained the school committee submits their request and then the town makes an appropriation. Roll noted that the town cannot exceed the 5.25% cap.

Community Comments

McComisky welcomed new committee members and noted union members have worked together in the past and she was extending the same commitment. Connie Walinski asked about all day Kindergarten. The Interim Superintendent stated he has had several requests and it has been suggested that it should be done system-wide or at one school. He felt that initially it should be done as a pilot program at the school with the neediest students to determine the requirements and then determine cost.

Motion to adjourn by Zito. Seconded by Robson. All in favor. Motion carried.

JOHN ZANGARI, CLERK

DATE