

**OFFICIAL**

**LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**LINCOLN, RI 02865**

**DATE: February 12, 2007**

**TIME: 7:40 p.m. - 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, Linda Cliff**

**Motion by Donabedian to open the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Seconded by Robson. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Opening Ceremony/Pledge of Allegiance**

**The Pledge of Allegiance was led by three students from Northern Lincoln Elementary.**

## **Student Awards**

**The Interim Superintendent read the names for the Spelling Bee winners at the Middle School and Zito and Battistoni presented awards to the students. Asjed Hussain, Grade 8, will be going on to the state competition. The runner up was Christina Albanese, Grade 7. Christine Clark recognized Carlos Cosme for his artwork, noting he was recognized in the Valley Breeze. She then explained how she chose to do a unit on a utopian society. Alex D'Alosio, Grade 5, was the first place winner and Caley Remillard was runner up. They each read their essays.**

**Mr. Martin recognized Mrs. Kolenda, James Fontaine, Mrs. McRoberts and Craig Couture for the Scholastic Arts and Writing Awards. He introduced Mrs. Byrnes who recognized 10th grade student Meredith Wyatt for having her artwork was displayed in Union Station in Washington, D.C. and is being included in a nationally distributed VSA Council calendar. Mr. Martin also recognized the students' families. Mr. Martin recognized the National Merit Scholarship finalists Katherine Battistoni, Mariel Battistoni and Joe Ahung.**

## **Student Update - Lincoln High School**

**Chris Hall, a senior at Lincoln High School, gave a state of the school address. He spoke of the student activities, including tutoring, several clubs and noted the Lincoln Students Against Crime. He also**

stated they have an anonymous tip line. In addition to sports, there is an upcoming fashion show and the variety show. Roll commented on the importance in connecting with the students.

### **Right To Be Heard**

The Chair reviewed the policy for Right To Be Heard. Dean Klitzner talked about his son who was diagnosed with BDD, which is similar to autism, and how Mrs. Alber has helped him. Lori Choffi spoke highly of Mrs. Alber's work with their son who has had an IEP since 2004. Alisha McDonough reported on the successes, noting NBC had filmed her son in Mrs. Alber's classroom. Ken Alber stated his wife has 22 years working in the field of development disability and has a Masters in Education. Her classroom has been chosen as a model class and he feels there must be an error. Eileen Assad spoke of her own child and in support of Mrs. Alber. Chris Albanese said his child has flourished with Mrs. Alber and her youngest is a peer model. Karina Nault stated her son couldn't speak at the age of three and owes Mrs. Alber for his success. Colleen McCarthy's daughter has Down Syndrome and has come such a long way. Steve Sandramano thanked Mrs. Alber and stated Lincoln has a lot to loose.

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## **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by Zangari to seal the Executive Session minutes of February 12, 2007. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Robson to approve the January 8, 2007 Work Session Minutes. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Robson to approve the January 8, 2007 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Zito to approve the January 8, 2007 Executive Session Minutes. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor. Motion carried. Zangari commented that the minutes had been sealed in Open Session and it was not noted on the Executive Session minutes.**

**Motion by Donabedian to approve the January 22, 2007 Budget Workshop Minutes. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Zito to approve the January 23, 2007 Budget Workshop Minutes. Seconded by Donabedian. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Zito January 29, 2007 Budget Workshop Minutes. Seconded by Donabedian. All in favor. Motion carried.**

## **Correspondence**

### **Lincoln Schools Renovation Projects**

**The Interim Superintendent reported receiving a letter from Scott Dunlop of Architectural Volution after a meeting on the status of the**

**school administrative building and costs associated with renovating or other use of that building. Mencucci stated there will be one more meeting on the square footage.**

## **Superintendent's Report**

### **Emergency Notification Systems**

**Interim Superintendent Nasif reported they have been working with fire, rescue and police regarding an emergency notification plan to notify parents and staff in the event of an emergency. Susan Hendy from Safety Net spoke on their service, Alert Now, which has the ability to place 6,000 calls a minute by phone and the internet. They can send voice messages with emergency operators launching calls over an 800 number or sending e-mail notifications. The costs for unlimited calling is \$3/student or \$2.55/student for a three year contract. She explained that they use a phone number given them by the school department so phones having an ID block isn't a problem. All information is confidential. Jesse Leave, representative for Connect Ed, stated theirs is an eight year old company solely servicing education in 11,000 schools. They have the ability to make two million calls an hour. They hold up to six phone numbers or e-mail addresses per student. They can facilitate attendance calls on unexcused absences or conduct surveys. There is a one time fee for set up of scripts with \$100 each building and \$1,000 per district. The annual cost is \$3.60/student. Faculty and staff are free. He stated he**

would be happy to make a presentation if the committee is considering business partners. Leave suggested using Title I money, noting most districts pool money from various departments and titles.

### **Bullying Policy - Quarterly Report**

Interim Superintendent Nasif reported this is the first quarterly report.

He pulled the policy from the high school handbook and feels it needs to be discussed on an on-going basis. Mr. Martin had identified a variety of activities that have taken place regarding this and he mentioned the anonymous tip line, LHStipline@Hotmail.com. Nasif stated this is important for staff, too. They will come up with a format for the statistics.

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Roll noted the importance of a witness being able to tell without feeling they are tattling. She also thought they need to address the fact that the policy doesn't include cyber bullying.

**Interim Superintendent Contract to June 2007**

**Motion by Zangari to approve adjusting the salary and benefits for the**

**Interim Superintendent from January 1 to June 1. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried.**

### **District Calendar for SY 2007-08**

**Interim Superintendent Nasif reported the committee had approved this year's school calendar last March, so he has issued a rough draft for next year based on the RI Association of School Superintendents. He has provided a copy to the Lincoln Teachers' Association and needs to provide it to the non-certified staff. He has listed November 6th as a professional day because of the law regarding no school on election day. He noted they can start school before or after Labor Day. Nasif noted that transportation needs to be coordinated for out of district students. Zangari didn't feel getting out early in June was enough of a reason to start before Labor Day.**

### **Monthly Financial Report**

**Miller reported there is a \$5,000 possible variance. She believes substitute teachers will probably be over spent. Substitute assistants and substitute secretaries looks like it might not be over. Special education tuitions is showing a positive variance and purchased services is showing a negative variance. She explained she met with the principals and purchase orders have to be justified as they are halfway through the year. Fortunato explained that when students return to the district the purchased services such as specialists, teacher assistants are high in the beginning.**

## **Request for 1.0 Teacher Assistant**

**Interim Superintendent Nasif explained the request for another 1.0 Teacher Assistant following an IEP meeting. It is unbudgeted. Motion to approve by Robson. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried.**

## **Civic Use of Buildings**

**Mencucci confirmed the fees being charged for out of district requests is covering custodial costs. Motion by Zangari to approve the request by Kaplan Test Prep classes to use Lincoln High School. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Robson to approve the request by Cumberland Recreation Dance Program to use Lincoln High School for a dance recital. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor. Motion carried.**

## **Personnel Recommendations**

### **Appointments**

**Mariann Nievera To: HR Coordinator**

**130 Robinson Effective: January 31, 2007**

**Pawtucket, RI 02861 Salary: \$50,000 (prorated)**

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

**Yolanda Nazario TO: LTS .20 World Languages**

**2 Emily's Way Effective: February 5, 2007**

**North Providence, RI 02904 Salary: \$6,813.09**

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

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### **Medical Leave of Absence**

**Caroline Murgo From: Family/Consumer Science Teacher  
617 Warren Avenue Effective: January 8, 2007-June 20, 2007  
Swansea, MA 02777**

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

### **Extension of Childbirth and Parental Leave**

**Lauren Renzi From: Speech/Language Pathologist  
PO Box 278 Effective: March 20, 2007 to April 9, 2007  
Albion, RI 02802**

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

## **Resignations**

**John Scienzo From: Assistant Principal LHS**

**15 Woodlawn Drive Effective July 1, 2007**

**Cranston, RI 029205**

**Motion by Zangari to approve. Seconded by Battistoni. All in favor.**

**Motion carried.**

**Linda Graf**

**78 Old Quarry Road**

**North Scituate, RI 02857**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Marilyn Mollo**

**34 Pleasant Street**

**Seekonk, MA 02771**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Awarding of Bids - None.**

## **Salary Warrants**

**January 4, 2007 \$1,080,679.91**

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

**Motion carried.**

**January 18, 2007 \$1,116,370.69**

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

### **Expense Warrants**

**Capital Reserve Fund Invoices \$59,320.14**

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

**February 12, 2007 \$1,993,516.25**

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

### **Old Business**

#### **2007-2008 Budget**

**Interim Superintendent explained that the budget totals \$47,102,502, a little over a 2.3 million dollar increase and is at the 5.25% cap. Any new programs were put on hold for this budget. There were five new positions that were required. Increases were seen in utilities, medical and textbooks.**

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The next step is to schedule meetings with the Budget Board. Roll commented that with a budget like this they are in a no growth situation and that a full day kindergarten program will not be accomplished. She thanked the members of the administration for their support for this budget. She announced the budget meeting will be May 7th. Robson clarified the cap is different than in past years and they can't even propose more than 5.25%. Zangari commented that costs are going up and the budget is going down and they can't depend on growth.

## **Old Business**

### **Layoff Notices/non-renewals**

Interim Superintendent Nasif reported that state law requires notifying teachers by March first. Many will be rehired. He noted there are two letters that are sent for lay-offs or non-renewals. He made the following recommendations:

Termination or non-renewal of limited contract employees or long-term substitute (LTS) teachers due to anticipated return of teacher and/or regular teacher electing to fill this position.

**Alison Mills 1.0 LTS Self-Contained Central**

**Kristen Plant 1.0 LTS Grade Central**

**Lynda A. Thompson 1.0 LTS Grade Central**

**Kerri Salhany 1.0 LTS Grade 1 Fairlawn**

**Kathleen M. Busam 1.0 LTS Grade 6 Middle**

**Tanya Signore 1.0 LTS Math Middle**

**Nicole Travers 1.0 LTS Resource Middle**

**Michaela A. Dooley 1.0 LTS Grade 2 Northern**

**Courtney Lemoie 1.0 LTS K Northern**

**Diane R. Littlehale 1.0 LTS Music Northern**

**Lisa M. Simonelli 1.0 LTS Resource Northern**

**Marilyn Kelley 1.0 LTS School Psychologist Northern/Northern ELC**

**Stephanie Ganim 1.0 LTS Grade 5 Saylesville**

**Mathew C. Daingneault 1.0 LTS Math Senior**

**Alicia DiMezza .6 LTS English Senior**

**Susan Kolenda .8 LTS Art Senior**

**Michele M. McRoberts .4 LTS Art Senior**

**Anthony Napoleoni, Sr. 1.0 LTS Tech Ed Teacher Senior**

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

**Motion carried.**

**Termination or non-renewal because it is anticipated that a teacher or teachers with more seniority may be returning from job sharing, resulting in a teacher with more seniority claiming your position and/or fiscal exigencies which may require a reduction in programs and/or teacher personnel:**

**None**

**Displacement or possible displacement due to anticipation that there**

**will be fewer teaching positions in the area/grade in which you are teaching and you are the least senior teacher in that grade/area of certification.**

**Beth Aubin Grade 2 Central**

**Jane Girard Grade 3 Northern**

**Danielle K. Cahill Grade 3 Saylesville**

**Motion by Donabedian. Seconded by Zangari. All in favor. Motion carried.**

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**Termination because of the level of the teacher's performance and the District's belief that the teacher can be replaced with someone who can better serve the District's needs:**

**Michelle Boudreau Integrated K Spec. Ed Fairlawn**

**Catherine A. Alber Pr-K Spec. Ed Northern ELC**

**Steven Kilsey English Senior**

**Kathryn Kocab 1.0 Biology Senior**

**James H. Lindley 1.0 Self-Contained Senior**

**Motion by Zangari. Seconded by Robson. All in favor. Motion**

carried.

**Non-renewal due to uncertainty in funding levels with anticipation that it may be necessary to eliminate or consolidate positions or programs, which will result in the lack of a position for a teacher with your seniority or certification and/or fiscal exigencies which may require a reduction in programs and/or teaching personnel.**

**Alesandra Almon 1.0 Resource Central**

**Clare Brauch 1.0 PE/Health Central**

**Christine Meglio School Psychologist Central**

**Johanna Pimental DPT Central**

**Colleen Boisvert .5 Reading Teacher Fairlawn**

**Jennifer Boudreault 1.0 Int. K Fairlawn**

**Nicole Hallam PE/Health Fairlawn**

**Rebecca Koczan Social Worker Fairlawn**

**Cynthia Quinlan .5 Art Fairlawn**

**Kathleen Dowling Resource Lonsdale**

**Amy Shunney Resource Lonsdale**

**Lauren Bentley Resource Northern**

**Jaclyn Ferrante 1.0 Self-Contained Northern**

**Melissa Goho Reading Northern**

**Kara Haddad 1.0 Reading Northern**

**Kimberly Maratto 1.0 Reading Northern**

**Joseph Mellen Self-Contained Gr 5/6 Northern**

**Cynthia Soares Grade 2 Northern**

**Diane S. Walker Librarian Northern**  
**Harold Weaver Occupational Therapist Northern**  
**Anne Bibeault Occupational Therapist Northern ELC**  
**Genna Cookson Psychologist Northern ELC**  
**Kerry Donaldson Self-Contained Gr 1 & 2 Northern ELC**  
**Susan Mischler 1.0 Reading Specialist Northern ELC**  
**Susan R Rose .60 Librarian Northern/Northern ELC**  
**Gorete DaSilva Resource Saylesville**  
**Tracy Hastings Resource Saylesville**  
**Susan VanderDoes 1.0 Reading Saylesville**  
**Karen Ventrone G&T/Enrich. Gr. 2-6 Saylesville**  
**Jill Adams Art Middle**  
**Matthew Barboza 1.0 Science Middle**  
**Michelle M. Botelho PE/Health Middle**  
**Kelly Burrows Self-Contained Middle**  
**Cathleen Carlson Science Middle**

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**Thomas Casale 1.0 Music Music**  
**Neil Digris 1.0 Social Studies Middle**  
**Penelope Dvorin Business Middle**

**Lisa A. Ethier 1.0 French Middle**  
**Michelle King 1.0 Science Middle**  
**Pamela Mackey Grade 6 Middle**  
**Eleanor McKenna 1.0 Art Middle**  
**Wendy McPeak 1.0 Math Middle**  
**Christopher Morris Self-Contained Middle**  
**Lauren Renzi Speech/Language Middle**  
**Ronny Almeida 1.0 Social Studies Senior**  
**Emily Bennett .2 Math Senior**  
**Cecilia Botelho Spanish Senior**  
**Roy Boudreau Tech Ed Senior**  
**Celeste Canham Speech/Language Senior**  
**Robert Capron 1.0 Social Studies Senior**  
**Lisa Cardarelli 1.0 Reading Specialist Senior**  
**Tracey Cook 1.0 Social Studies Senior**  
**Carolyn Costello 1.0 English Senior**  
**Thea DeConti 1.0 English Senior**  
**Amy Dias Mathematics Senior**  
**MaryAnn DiBattista Reading Specialist Senior**  
**Alicia DiMezza .4 English Senior**  
**Ashley Ellsworth 1.0 English Senior**  
**Regina Ferreira 1.0 Math Senior**  
**Jessica Galla 1.0 Reading Senior**  
**Patrick Hanley Business Senior**  
**Teresa Hopkins Mathematic Senior**  
**Christopher Jones 1.0 Self-Contained Senior**

**Neil J. Letendre .8 Music Senior**

**Michele McRoberts 1.0 Math Senior**

**Yvette Morgeon 1.0 Math Senior**

**Marc Pelagalli .4PE/Health Senior**

**Paul Ruhle Mathematics Senior**

**Graham Souness Science Senior**

**Sara-Jean Stevens Psychologist Senior**

**Britany Winsor 1.0 Science Senior**

**Allison Nelson Out-of-District SPED Systemwide**

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

**Motion carried.**

### **School Committee Reports**

**Zangari reported they are updating the elementary and middle school curriculum for Learning Beyond Grade Level and focusing on different levels of instruction for different abilities. Battistoni reported holding their first meeting on the high school reform issue. They hope to have a policy in place by the end of the school year for the proficiency based graduation requirements. Roll reported the Wellness committee is trying to emphasize the fun side of wellness.**

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**Community Comments**

**MaryAnn McComiskey thanked all the people who spoke in support of Mrs. Alber and she feels confident that the committee will give every consideration for all the names put before them tonight. She stated she was saddened to hear of Mr. Scienzo's and he will be missed. Ann Mosko commented on the Bullying Policy and asked the policy be provided to the School Improvement Teams and parents. She stated she was unaware of the tip line. Roll noted the policy was in the handbook. Nasif stated he would get the policy to all the school improvement teams. Brian Azar spoke in support of Mrs. Alber. He asked if the lay-offs were in the infancy stage and Nasif responded they will probably be dealt with on a weekly basis.**

**Move to Executive Session for Businesses Pertaining to Personnel to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a) 1 and 2 - Not needed.**

**Adjourn**

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

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**JOHN ZANGARI, CLERK**

**DATE**