

LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND
MINUTES

DATE: October 19, 2009
PLACE: Lincoln Middle School
152 Jenckes Hill Road
Lincoln, RI 02865
TIME: 7:00 PM – Open Session

School Committee Members Present: Elizabeth Robson, Chair; Kristine Donabedian, Vice Chair; Mary Varr, Clerk; Richard Battistoni, Tracey Cavanaugh, Mary Anne Roll, Julie Zito

Others Present: Georgia Fortunato, Superintendent; Eric Banville, Linda Cliff, Mark Gadbois, Margaret Knowlton, Monique Latessa, Bruce Macksoud, Jeannine Magliocco, Kevin McNamara, Angelo Mencucci, Lori Miller, William Skitt, Melinda Smith, Maryann Struble, Joyce Ruppell; Attorney Benjamin Scungio

Opening Ceremony

The Chair reported there were no votes taken in Executive Session.

Right to be Heard – None.

I. Approval of Minutes

- a. September 9, 2009 Executive Session
Motion to approve by Donabedian. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- b. September 14, 2009 Executive Session
Motion to approve by Donabedian. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- c. September 14, 2009 Monthly Meeting
Motion to approve by Donabedian. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

II. Correspondence – None.

III. Superintendent's Report

- a. Approval of Superintendent's Contract
The Chair asked for a motion to approve extending the Superintendent's contract one year to July 2013. Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- b. Lincoln High School Student Update
Principal McNamara introduced John Duval, President of Band, which has 140 members. John reported they recently marched at Autumn Fest in Woonsocket and pictures have been posted on the band website. They will perform at the half time show for homecoming and at holiday concerts. Last year they went to Virginia to compete and this year they will be going to Cleveland, Ohio.
- c. Superintendent Goals 2009-2010
Superintendent Fortunato shared her goals for the district for the 2009-2010 school year, which are aligned with the district's strategic plan. The first area of focus will be improving student achievement district wide:
 - Continue to initiate new programs to meet all students' needs
 - Analyze state assessment data to revise curriculum instructional practices
 - Provide professional development activities for staff and administrators in implementing sound instruction for teachers which will continue to improve student achievement
 - Continue to demonstrate the district's vision, standards assessment, accountability, alignment, climate and collaboration
 - Continue collaboration with parents, administration and the Director of Curriculum to revise school improvement plans which implement a change in teaching and learning district wide

- Continue to monitor implementation of PBIS in grades K-8
- Continue focus learning district wide

The second area of focus will be to enhance home/school communication:

- The website continues to be a work in progress and will continue to be updated for parents, staff and community
- Continue to make sure all schools continue to utilize their LIP serves and continue updating their school website
- Continue to foster parent participation on committees both school and district wide to show the partnership in everything they do
- Increase evening activities at schools to provide tools for parents to be able to assist their students in the school initiatives, especially in science and math
- Utilizing the I-Parent system. This is the first year that I-Parent will be used to monitor student progress to communicate directly with the parent K-12.
- Continue parent awareness of the partnership with the East Bay Collaborative, Roger Williams University, Bryant University, NE Institute of Technology, Johnson & Wales University and soon with the Confucius Institute at Bryant University
- Create a district newsletter to be mailed to families and community members to share opportunities that students have, as well as parents and community members.
- Utilize the Global Connect system.

d. Confucius Classrooms Proposal

The Superintendent reported being asked about a partnership with the Confucius Institute at Bryant University. She asked Principals Knowlton and McNamara and Melinda Smith to create a proposal to bring a Confucius classroom to two schools, Saylesville and Lincoln High School. Even though the Confucius classroom will be housed at Saylesville, other elementary students will be able to participate in the afterschool activities which will be rich in sharing Chinese culture and history. She hopes to be offering Mandarin Chinese at the high school in the 2010-2011 school year. Lincoln is the second school district to have a Confucius classroom. Fortunato reported they will be going to China in December where there will be a three day conference in Beijing and they will also visit classrooms. McNamara noted the classroom will engage the community at large. The Institute is a subset of the US-China partnership and works with an organization as a Chinese government committee where funding and resources come from. They will have dedicated classrooms. Knowlton reported there would be before and after school programs and will use enrichment and grade level teachers. They are looking for some professional development time and will develop resource kits. Smith reported they have worked to expand the world language program at the high school and there will be instructors coming from China.

e. NECAP Science Scores Presentation (Melinda Smith)

Smith talked about science instruction reform in the district starting with September 2006 when they were faced with a fourteen year old program and applied for grant funding. They reordered science instruction at the high school so physics was taught in 9th grade and then chemistry and biology. That required realigning the curriculum K-8. Inquiry based science kits were introduced. Then they met to improve test scores at grades 3 and 4. They found it was all about reading the test question and actually answering what the question asked; it was not so much the content. They gave students practice with that. Smith reviewed the test results.

f. Financial Report/Charter Schools Update (Lori Miller)

Lori Miller reported she is still projecting a variance in the budget, but it is hard to predict. She did receive a letter from Cranston but she doesn't know what the tuition will be. Now with UCOA there are multiple accounts and she cited facilities. Charter Schools show a \$247,000 negative variance and Beacon Charter was just paid \$56,000.

g. ARRA Funds Update (Maryann Struble)

Maryann Struble explained she had put together a committee to determine areas of need. The elementary level initiatives were social thinking program training, professional development and a wide range of assistive technology. The middle school included assistive technology at every level, professional development and portable planetarium training. At the high school level there is LEAP, a greenhouse program, printing shop, tutorial, assistive technology and professional development. District wide they will be bringing in TiNet, a computer program and netRTI for program monitoring.

- h. Adoption of Resolution Regarding Binding Arbitration
Motion to approve as presented in the packet by Donabedian. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- i. Adoption of Strategic Plan 2009-2012
Superintendent Fortunato noted the strategic plan is only as good as the people using it. They met in September to target areas. Melinda Smith reported working with Dr. Jasparro on global trends and what the students will be going into. They then broke into committees. The Superintendent read the four objectives:
 - 1. Develop, implement, evaluate a comprehensive assessment and accountabilities system to increase student achievement P-K – 12.
 - a. Investigate existing state, district level assessments and develop an assessment system district wide.
 - 2. Integrate use of technology by both students and teachers to include teaching and learning. Integrate the national education technology standards in P-K through 12 curriculum instruction and identify technology needs throughout the district and provide equipment and professional development as needed
 - 3. Pursue and foster cooperative relationships between every school, home and the community at large, including businesses. Provide students' families greater opportunities to be involved in the educational process in order to promote student achievement. Engage the community at large in the academic experience for the goal of building support for the Lincoln school community and will build alliances with business and community agencies.
 - 4. Develop and implement a comprehensive plan that supports programs, space and facilities. Develop and implement a comprehensive plan for safe facilities that will support a full day kindergarten instructional program.Mary Anne Roll noted now it's critical to now have the action teams. Motion to approve the adoption of the Strategic Plan 2009-2012 by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- j. Approval of Out of State Field Trip
Superintendent Fortunato noted the Cross Country field trip had already been approved, but the trip is now to King's Park, Long Island on November 27 – 29. Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Battistoni. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- k. Boys & Girls Club Pool Rental Agreement
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Battistoni. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- l. Adoption of Resolution to apply \$44,000.00 of fund balance from 08-09 fiscal year to matching COPs grant
Superintendent Fortunato gave a history of the COPs grant. Mencucci, McNamara, Waycott and Chief Sullivan got together to write a COPs grant for the surveillance for Lincoln High School. This issue is that the grant was awarded, but it is a matching grant. Lori Miller explained the \$44,000 would come from the surplus. Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

IV. Civic Use of Buildings – None.

V. Personnel Recommendations

Resignations

- a. Stacey Raheb
12 Christopher Drive
Lincoln, RI 02865
From: PT 15 Hour 1:1 TA - Fairlawn
Effective: September 8, 2009
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- b. Chris Cobain
10 Victoria Drive
Smithfield, RI 02917
From: Assistant Principal – Lincoln Middle School
Effective: October 2, 2009
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

Leave of Absence Requests

- a. Robert Capron
35 Elisha Mathewson Road
North Scituate, RI 02857
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- From: Social Studies – High School
Effective: August 26, 2009 - January 20, 2010
(date revised)
- b. Karen Crowell
19 Ash Street
Riverside, RI 02915
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- From: Kindergarten – FELC
Effective: October 14, 2009 – January 11, 2010
Medical Leave

Teacher Appointments
Long-Term Sub Appointments

Support Staff Appointments

- a. Lisa Barone
6A Strawberry Lane
Johnston, RI 02919
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- To: PT 15 Hour 1:1 TA – Fairlawn
Effective: September 8, 2009 – end of school year
Salary: \$9.25/hour
- b. Judy Bazzle
11 Elmcrest Avenue
Providence, RI 02908
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- To: PT 12 Hour 1:1 TA – NELC
Effective: August 31, 2009 – end of school year
Salary: \$10.25
- c. Kerry Costello
3 Christian Court
Lincoln, RI 02838
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- To: PT 12 Hour 1:1 TA – NELC
Effective: September 8, 2009 – end of school year
Salary: \$9.75

Physician Appointment

- a. Malini Gillen, M.D.
1 Commerce Street
Lincoln, RI 02865
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- To: School Doctor – District
Effective: 2009-2010 school year
Salary: \$5,800.00

Dentist Appointment

- a. George Resnevic, DMD
895 Putnam Pike (Route 44)
Chepachet, RI 02814
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- To: School Dentist – District
Effective: 2009-2010 school year
Salary: \$4,400.00

Co-Curricular Appointments

- a. Seth Hamilton
1462 Old Louisquisset Pike
Lincoln, RI 02865
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- To: Drama Advisor – Middle School
Effective: 2009-2010 school year
Salary: \$1,223.00
- b. Shane Quinn
73 London Drive
Hamden, CT 06517
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- To: Drama Advisor – High School
Effective: 2009-2010 school year
Salary: \$1,592.00

