

LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND  
MINUTES

**DATE:** March 15, 2010  
**PLACE:** Lincoln Middle School  
152 Jenckes Hill Road  
Lincoln, RI 02865  
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

***Chair to report out any votes taken in Executive Session: Receive motion by committee member to seal Executive Session Minutes pursuant to applicable provisions of RIGL 42-46-(4)&(5)***

The Chair reported they heard a grievance in Executive Session. Motion to table by Roll. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion to seal the March 15, 2010 Executive Session minutes by Zito. Seconded by Battistoni. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

Right to be Heard – None.

I. Approval of Minutes

- a. February 8, 2010 Executive Session  
Motion to approve by Donabedian. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- b. February 8, 2010 Monthly Meeting  
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Donabedian. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- c. February 22, 2010 Special Meeting  
Motion to approve by Varr. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

II. Correspondence – None.

III. Superintendent's Report

- a. Citations  
The Superintendent asked Julie Zito to announce the district spelling bee champion. Zito congratulated Charice Cejas, who was not present to accept her certificate. Rick Battistoni recognized the JV Girls Indoor Track, presenting them with certificates.
- b. Lincoln High School Student Update  
Principal McNamara introduced Tyler Cloutier, President of the National Honor Society. Tyler spoke about the purpose of the National Honor Society to create a duty for scholarship, promote community service and develop character. They adopted a family at Christmas and raised funds for Haiti by selling "Hope for Haiti" bracelets. They also sent care packages to the troops. The induction ceremony to the National Honor Society will be at Twelve Acres on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

- c. Abraham Lincoln Presentation  
Superintendent Fortunato reported she and Melinda Smith were able to join students from Northern Elementary and the High School at the state house for a presentation on Abraham Lincoln, "A Man of His Time, A Man for All Times". Melinda Smith explained that in her visitation of schools last year she saw a fifth grade history teacher at Northern Elementary and a teacher at the High School teaching the same topic. They connected Mrs. Small at the High School with Mrs. Rheault at Northern Elementary for a publishing project. Mrs. Small and Mrs. Rheault explained their project that culminated in a presentation and role playing at the State House. A slide presentation was shown of the State House experience.
- d. Northern Olympics  
Mrs. Reddy introduced the teachers who assisted. She showcased how the gym was transformed into an Olympic village for reading week. There were students representing participating countries with Mrs. Cliff as the torch bearer. Contests were held in the snow with medals being presented. The Rhode Island Curling Club arrived with their curling stone. Mrs. Reddy thanked Mr. McNamara for sending some high school students to help. Superintendent Fortunato was presented with a gold medal.
- e. Approval of 2010-2011 School Calendar  
The Superintendent noted the important dates of August 25<sup>th</sup> for Teacher Orientation, August 26<sup>th</sup> for Professional Day. All schools will open Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> and the last day of school will be June 17, 2011. Motion to approve by Varr. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.  
Fortunato noted the calendar will be posted on the web site Tuesday.
- f. 2008-09 Audit Presentation  
Lori Miller reported they had a positive variance. The SAS112 letter is for the auditors' notes to impact internal control. She is working on the school lunch program, the student activity fund and she has responded to the communication from the town. All in all, Miller thought it was an excellent report. The Superintendent asked for a round of applause for Miller. Fortunato will be forwarding her monthly report after each school committee meeting to the Town Administrator, as well as the Town Council President.
- g. Resolution Concerning Early Retirement Stipend for Employees  
Superintendent Fortunato asked the committee to allow the notice date for intended retirement for certified teachers be extended from December 1, 2009 to March 30, 2010 for the 09-10 school year only. It may facilitate teachers who may decide to retire this year instead of next year, which would have a positive impact on the budget. Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Donabedian. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- h. Commissioner's Review  
The Superintendent thanked Mr. McNamara, Mr. Cobb, Mr. Kilsey, Mrs. Tavares, the dedicated teachers at Lincoln High School, the union leadership as well as the students which make the high school a true learning community. Principal McNamara thanked Superintendent Fortunato for her support through the entire process and mostly for her comprehensive and detailed presentation the first morning. He felt that set the tone. He also thanked the school committee for attending the morning meeting. He thanked Mr. Dalpe. McNamara reviewed the time line and stated on December 9<sup>th</sup> they received approval to proceed toward 2012. They were commended for a well developed personalization structure that supports students to be a success, leadership that supports the implementation of the diploma system, hiring a PBG coordinator and the extensive professional development by the district.
- i. Financial Report/Charter Schools Update  
Lori Miller reported two students returned from the International Charter School. The savings would be two students for a half year. The CVS Highlander School bill has not been sent yet. Miller reported they should break even in salaries. Blue Cross had some surgeries in December. Special education, purchased services and utilities are still of concern. Gas has only been paid through December. Reimbursements have been coming in from the Dana Institute.
- j. Approval of Out of State Field Trip Requests  
Mrs. Small's class to JFK Museum and Library, March 16, 2010  
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Donabedian. All in Favor. Motion carried 7-0.  
  
Mrs. King's class to Boston Museum of Science, April 16, 2010  
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

- k. Approval of Disposition of Obsolete Computer Equipment  
Superintendent Fortunato noted Mr. Gadbois had listed all the serial numbers and they will be disposed of in an ecologically safe manner. Varr requested the dates of purchase be included. Mr. Gadbois noted the equipment is ten to twelve years old.  
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- l. Vote to Approve Photography Contract  
This is for the 2010 commencement exercises.  
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

IV. Civic Use of Buildings – None.

V. Personnel Recommendations

**Resignations**

- a. Frank Kelly  
92 Parker Street  
Lincoln, RI 02865  
From: Girls' Softball Assistant Coach – High School  
Effective: February 4, 2010
- b. Timothy Carpentier  
55 Stephanie Court  
Warwick, RI 02889  
From: Softball Coach – Middle School  
Effective: February 12, 2010
- c. Peter Prendergast  
91 Sage Drive  
Warwick, RI 02886  
From: Boys' Tennis Head Coach – High School  
Effective: February 12, 2010  
Motion to approve by Varr. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

**Teacher Appointment**

- a. Barbara Maher  
32 Kirkbrae Drive  
Lincoln, RI 02865  
To: ESY Coordinator  
Effective: 2009-10 School Year  
Salary: \$5,280.00  
Motion to approve by Varr. Seconded by Roll. Motion carried 6-1, with Zito voting against.

**Leave of Absence Requests**

- a. Rita McCann  
650 East Greenwich Ave.  
Building 5-206  
West Warwick, RI 02893  
From: Grade 6 – Middle School  
Effective: 2/25/10 – 3/25/10  
Medical Leave (Extension)
- b. Pamela Azar  
1069 Great Road  
Lincoln, RI 02865  
From: Social Studies – Middle School  
Effective: 3/2/10 – End of School Year  
Medical Leave (Extension)
- c. Eleanor McKenna  
79 Preston Avenue  
Cranston, RI 02920  
From: Art – Middle School  
Effective: 5/14/10 – End of School Year  
Maternity Leave
- d. Nicole Hallam  
44 Arrowfield Road  
Cranston, RI 02921  
From: Health & Physical Education – NELC/Lonsdale  
Effective: 3/15/10 – 6/7/10  
Medical/Maternity Leave  
Motion to approve by Cavanaugh. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

**Long-Term Sub Appointments**

- a. Karen Recene  
75 Austin Street  
Wakefield, RI 02879  
To: LTS – Grade 6 – Middle School  
From: 2/25/10 – 3/25/10 (Extension)  
Salary: B-3 \$5,141.31

- b. Samantha Medeiros  
146 Dorr Avenue  
Riverside, RI 02915  
To: LTS – Social Studies – Middle School  
Effective: 3/2/10 – End of School Year (Extension)  
Salary: B-1 \$15,074.23
- c. Kristen Connell  
16 White Court  
North Providence, RI 02911  
To: LTS – Resource – High School  
Effective: 2/25/10 – 5/26/10  
Salary: B-1 \$15,720.27
- d. Susan DiOrio  
29 Marigold Circle  
North Providence, RI 02904  
To: LTS – Family & Consumer Science – High School  
Effective: 2/8/10 – End of School Year  
Salary: B-10 \$34,332.42
- e. Marianne Byington  
5 Morning Way  
Cumberland, RI 02864  
To: 1.0 LTS Kindergarten – FELC/NELC  
Effective: 4/1/10 – End of School Year  
Salary: B-10 \$19,162.29  
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

**Support Staff Appointment**

- a. Cindy Flaxington  
1 Cobble Hill Road  
Lincoln, RI 02865  
To: PT 10 Hour 1:1 TA - FELC  
Effective: 3/8/10 – End of School Year  
Salary: \$10.25  
Motion to approve by Roll. Seconded by Donabedian. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

**Co-Curricular Appointments**

- a. Charlene Snyder  
1 Cullen Avenue  
Lincoln, RI 02865  
To: Girls' Lacrosse Assistant Coach – High School  
Effective: 2009-10 Spring Sports Season  
Salary: \$2,606.00
- b. Patrick DeSocio  
23 South Baptist Street  
Newport, RI 02840  
To: Boys' Lacrosse Assistant Coach – High School  
Effective: 2009-10 Spring Sports Season  
Salary: \$2,606.00
- c. Rebecca Buontempo  
2 Thomas Drive  
Lincoln, RI 02865  
To: Track Coach – Middle School  
Effective: 2009-10 Spring Sports Season  
Salary: \$1,469.00
- d. Kara Marvelli  
187 Academy Avenue  
Providence, RI 02908  
To: Girls' Softball Coach – Middle School  
Effective: 2009-10 Spring Sports Season  
Salary: \$1,469.00
- e. Timothy Carpentier  
55 Stephanie Court  
Warwick, RI 02889  
To: Girls' Softball Assistant Coach – High School  
Effective: 2009-10 Spring Sports Season  
Salary: \$3,060.00
- f. Nichole Grimshaw  
11 Highland Avenue  
Coventry, RI 02816  
To: Girls' Lacrosse Assistant Coach – High School  
Effective: 2009-10 Spring Sports Season  
Salary: \$2,606.00
- g. Michael Tuorto  
3 Meadow Avenue  
North Providence, RI 02911  
To: Boys' Tennis Head Coach – High School  
Effective: 2009-10 Spring Sports Season  
Salary: \$2,815.00  
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Battistoni. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

VI. Awarding of Bids

a. Tricaster

HB Communications Inc.	\$7,615.00
B & H Photo Video Corp	7,714.00
Advertising Works! & Production	7,825.55
Studica, Inc..	9,543.00

Miller recommended HB Communications Inc. as the low bidder, noting they had offered additional equipment at a savings for a total of \$10,024. There would be an additional savings if purchased prior to March 26<sup>th</sup>. This will be from the Champlin Fund. Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

b. Electrical Upgrades High School

Energy Electric Co., Inc.	\$18,050
Alpha Electrical Contractors, Inc.	29,600
JT Electric Inc.	35,600

Miller noted Energy Electric did not meet specifications; therefore she recommended Alpha Electrical Contractors, Inc. for \$29,600. This will be from the Champlin Fund. Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

c. Portable Planetarium

Digitalis Education Solutions, Inc.	\$55,005
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Miller recommended Digitalis Education Solutions, Inc. for \$55,005. This is from the ARRA funds. Motion to approve by Zito. Second by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

d. Project Management & Evaluation Services Teaching American History Grant

RI Historical Society	\$59,700 (per year)
American Education Solutions, Inc.	33,333 (per year)
Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History	27,000 (per year)

Miller explained in order to apply for the grant, these people have to be in place and they are aware if the grant is not received they will not be needed. Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Battistoni. This is from the IM Grant which is awarded in July. Motion to amend subject to funding by Donabedian. Seconded by Battistoni. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0. All in favor of the original motion. Motion carried 7-0. Superintendent Fortunato congratulated Melinda Smith on the application of this grant.

e. Electricity

TransCanada Power	\$.07340/kwh
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Lori Miller explained the contract is from April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011, at .07340/kWh. Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

f. Natural Gas

Based on NYMEX an adder of \$2.65 per decatherm.

Miller explained that in the event the price starts to go up they can convert the variable contract to a fixed price at any time without additional cost. Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

VII. Salary Warrants

February 11, 2010	\$1,192,317.89
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Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

February 25, 2010	\$1,137,664.41
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Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

VIII. Expense Warrants

February 15, 2010 (FY 09-10)	\$1,783,777.34
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Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Battistoni. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

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IX. Old Business – None.

X. New Business

Mary Anne Roll reported they had an e-mail from Tim Duffy at RIASC regarding pending legislation about binding arbitration and continuation of contracts. She requested this be added to the April agenda.

XI. School Committee Reports – None.

XII. Community Comments – None.

XIII. Adjourn

Motion to approve by Zito at 8:49 PM. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

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MARY VARR, CLERK

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DATE