

LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND
MINUTES

DATE: May 17, 2010
PLACE: Lincoln Middle School
152 Jenckes Hill Road
Lincoln, RI 02865
TIME: 7:05 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, Mark Gadbois, Margaret Knowlton, Jeannine Magliocco, Kevin McNamara, Angelo Mencucci, Lori Miller, William Skitt, Melinda Smith,

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)

There were no votes taken in Executive Session. Motion to seal the Executive Session minutes by Zito. Seconded by Varr. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

Right to be Heard – None.

I. Approval of Minutes

- a. April 12, 2010 Executive Session
Motion to approve by Varr. Seconded by Donabedian. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- b. April 12, 2010 Monthly Meeting
Motion to approve by Donabedian. Seconded by Donabedian. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

II. Correspondence – None.

III. Superintendent's Report

- a. Citations
Superintendent Fortunato introduced Mary Ann McComiskey, who has been awarded 2010 RI School Social Worker of the Year. Mrs. McComiskey was presented with a certificate by Chairwoman Robson and given flowers by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent noted after the ground breaking of the broadcast studio, journalism students are again being recognized. Battistoni announced Justin Bradbury was recognized with a special achievement award in review writing. This award is the equivalent of first place awards in high school journalism. This is the second time Justin has been recognized for his review and Battistoni congratulated him. Battistoni announced Neil Sowa was declared a gold key winner in the American Society of the Newspaper Editors Quill & Scroll Society 2010 International Writing and Photo Contest. He was also awarded an honorable mention for an editorial cartoon about Tom Brady. Battistoni congratulated Neil.
- b. Lincoln High School Student Update
Principal McNamara introduced Jake Pitochelli, newly elected Vice President of the Senior Class. Jake spoke about looking forward to increasing participation in spirit week next year and planning the senior prom at Lake Pearl. They look forward to incorporating new ideas such as having more college guest speakers and increasing their fund raising events.

- c. School Nurse Teacher Presentation
Superintendent Fortunato stated she is pleased to have the school nurses reporting to her. She noted the school nurses' work involved with the H1N1 clinics and that they make sure there is a safe environment. She introduced Mary Anne Mignacca who introduced the school nurses and reviewed the clinics and also how they had to deal with a group exposed to E. Coli. Mignacca reported the nurse teachers serve on committees and contribute to the health curriculum. They are constantly on the phone with parents and working with the Health Department and noted there was an increase in visits to the nurses' offices. She had a slide presentation of some of their activities.
- d. Lou Fusco – Energy Update
Superintendent Fortunato introduced Lou Fusco who spoke about their energy management process. He reported a savings of \$830,925 – 26% less energy over 36 months. He thanked principals, custodial staff and teachers for governing their own schools. Fusco explained they are doing better with natural gas and can see a gradual decline. He also recognized Lori Miller and Angelo Mencucci.
- e. Adoption of Resolution Regarding Binding Arbitration
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Roll. Voted 6-1. Motion carried with Cavanaugh voting against.
- f. Adoption of Resolution Regarding Contract Language
Motion to approve by Roll. Seconded by Zito. Voted 6-1. Motion carried with Cavanaugh voting against.
- g. Adoption of Resolution Regarding Northwest Consortium
Superintendent Fortunato explained the Northwest Consortium is something the school committee had charged her with and she is working with three other Superintendents from Burrillville, Smithfield and North Smithfield. They have had several meetings with the grounds directors, IT directors, and business managers. The next meeting will be with the curriculum directors. The consortium allows cost savings but they still have independence. The Chair noted this began as a meeting of the school committee chairs. Motion to approve the resolution by Zito. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried.
- h. Approval of LHS Early Release Days - January 14, 2011 and May 27, 2011
Motion to approve by Battistoni. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- i. Rescissions
Superintendent Fortunato explained there are 111 rescissions. She noted she has sent an email to all teachers asking that they report any renewal or pending certifications in order to call people back. The Chair commented on this being a slow process because they need to make sure they have the funding. Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0, with Cavanaugh recused on #69.
- j. Approval of Job Description for PTA/PTO Liaison to Lincoln School Committee
The Superintendent reported she and Roll met with parents from all the schools. They will have a representative and alternate to have a voice under Community Comment at every school committee meeting. Motion to approve by Roll. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried. Roll commented on the enthusiasm from the parents. Battistoni noted this is strictly voluntary.
- k. Approval of CCRI Rental Agreement
Superintendent Fortunato reported this is for the graduation ceremony for June 11, 2011. Motion to approve by Battistoni. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried.
- l. Approval of MMS Contract
Superintendent Fortunato explained she and Lori Miller agreed to remain with the student information system for day to day operations. Motion to approve by Varr. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried.
- m. Approval of Disposition of Obsolete Computer Equipment
Fortunato reported Mr. Gadbois has confirmed the equipment is not operational. Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Battistoni. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- n. Financial Report/Charter Schools Update
Lori Miller reported there would probably be a 3% cut in state aid which would probably result in a deficit after that. The state is looking at a 5% cut for next year. Some of the revenue under Medicaid is for last year. The projected \$850,000 for next year may be optimistic. She is anticipating being overspent in salaries. Miller reported data warehousing is coming so they are reviewing every transaction to make sure it is coded correctly. Charter school tuitions are the same; and a credit of \$1,000 was received from Democracy Prep.

Superintendent Fortunato also reported attending the play at Lincoln High School and commended the drama students. She noted she had to leave for a family emergency in the middle of the production of Grease at the Lincoln Middle School and extended her congratulations to all the students involved in that production.

X. School Committee Reports

Roll reported on the RIASC meeting at Save the Bay Saturday with presentations on the economy. Economic recovery is not expected until 2017. Varr reported representing the school department at Ryan DeFond's Eagle Scout induction, noting it was a long road and a great night.

XI. Community Comments

Mary Ann McComiskey thanked everyone for her recognition, noting she couldn't have done so without the support of everyone. Jim Spooner thanked Superintendent Fortunato and Chairwoman Robson for their assistance in getting a commercial sign removed from property adjacent to a war memorial.

XII. Adjourn

Motion to approve adjourning at 8:15 PM by Zito. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

MARY VARR, CLERK

DATE