

LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND
MINUTES

DATE: October 17, 2011
PLACE: Lincoln Middle School
152 Jenckes Hill Road
Lincoln, RI 02865
TIME: 7:00 PM – Open Session

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

Others Present: Georgia Fortunato, Superintendent; Eric Banville, Patricia Gablinske, Mark Gadbois, Jeannine Magliocco, Kevin McNamara, Angelo Mencucci, Lori Miller, Michele Sharpe, Melinda Smith, Maryann Struble, Mark Thompson; 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 there were no votes taken in Executive Session. Motion to seal the minutes by Roll. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

Right to be Heard – None.

I. Approval of Minutes

- a. September 12, 2011 Executive Session
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.
- b. September 12, 2011 Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve by Donabedian. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.
- c. September 14, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve and seal by Zito. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.
- d. September 14, 2011 Executive Session
Motion to approve and seal by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.
- e. September 24, 2011 Special Meeting Executive Session
Motion to approve and seal by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

II. Superintendent's Report

a. Citations

Superintendent Fortunato congratulated Doreen Picozzi for her selection by the Dow Jones News Fund as a Special Recognition Advisor in the 2011 National High School Journalism Teacher Awards Competition. Picozzi will be honored at the Journalism Education Association Conference in Minneapolis next month. Fortunato stated this award captures and highlights a distinguished career of a veteran educator. Chairwoman Robson presented Mrs. Picozzi with a certificate of recognition and thanked her.

The Superintendent asked for a round of applause for the Lincoln Middle School Girls Softball Team, winners of the 2011 Northern Division Championship. Mary Anne Roll read the students' names as Julie Zito presented those present with certificates of recognition. Team members were:

Delaney Cavanaugh, Megan Chatowski, Jordan Delisle, Isabella DiOrio, Cianna Dumas, Kennedy Flaxington, Taylor Furtado, Crystal Goudreau, Erin Hannan, Marissa Isabella, Trisha Katz, Kaisha Liccirdi, Samantha Lisi, Abigail Majeau, Elizabeth Mann, Stacey Mayer, Allison O'Reilly, Martha Peppes, Alyssa Schermerhorn, Laura Sylvestre, Adrianna Toro, Coach Randy Liccardi

- b. Lincoln High School Student Update
Principal McNamara introduced Emma Hebert, FBLA President, noting this chapter is the second largest in RI. Emma stated they are planning fund raisers for Adopt A Family and a fashion show in March. There is a leadership conference at Johnson & Wales October 28th and annual competitions will be held in March.
- c. School Vaccination Clinics
Superintendent Fortunato reported the student influenza vaccination clinics will be held for LHS students, during the school day on October 28th at Lincoln High School and December 5th from 4 - 7 PM at Lincoln High School for students from all four elementary schools.
- d. NECAP Science Presentation
Superintendent Fortunato thanked the teachers for an amazing job, stating students and teachers worked very hard last year, focusing on science. She also recognized Central Elementary School for placing fourth in the state. Melinda Smith reported they covered physical, earth, space and life science and there is an inquiry portion. Central increased 13%, Lonsdale 18%, Northern 20%. There was a decrease at Saylesville of 21%. Smith stated they are looking at the writing responses there. The Superintendent noted there was also a larger increase in population. The middle school increased 11% to 34% and they have been working on the writing format. Lincoln High School went down 4%, but the high school has developed a comprehensive action plan and they are emphasizing expository writing. They are also developing common tasks and analyzing student work. Roll asked if there was a gap in the NECAP alignment. Smith explained it was more a gap in test years and they are working on that at the high school.
- e. Discussion of February Vacation Survey Results
Superintendent Fortunato reported she had sent an online survey to both staff and families. She explained the calendar is done a year ahead and this year there are people planning weddings and vacations, so it is not possible to cancel the February vacation. She suggested in planning the 2012-2013 calendar to consider the February vacation as make up days. Robson stated there is a cost factor to consider, as well as what happens to students who can't make up work. Roll commented there is a movement toward a March vacation. She would like to see a two hour delay; they can dismiss two hours early, but can't start two hours late. The Superintendent explained that comes from the Commissioner of Education. Fortunato noted she sent 2,316 emails and received 1,271 responses.
- f. Consideration and Vote on Resolution Concerning Pension Reform
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Roll. Motion carried 4-1, with Cavanaugh abstaining. Roll expressed concern regarding the municipal pension and read the resolves for the record:

“RESOLVED: That the Lincoln School Committee respectfully requests that the Rhode Island General Assembly enact reforms to the teacher and municipal employees systems that mitigate the cost to school districts and cities and towns; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to every Rhode Island Municipality, School Committee, State Senator, State Representative, the Rhode Island General Treasurer and Rhode Island Governor.”

Miller explained some are state funded municipal pensions and there are private pensions, such as Lincoln's John Hancock that are controlled by the town council.

- g. Consideration and Vote Superintendent's Recommendation to Approve Non-Certified Staff Final Tentative Agreement
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.
- h. Approval of Boys & Girls Club Pool Rental Agreement
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.
- i. Out of State Field Trip Requests
October 28, 2011; Johnson & Wales Inn, Seekonk, MA for FBLA
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

November 22, 2011; Federal Reserve Bank, Boston, LHS business students with Mrs. Murray
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

November 25-27, 2011; Wappinger Falls, NY, Nike Cross Country Championship,
Lincoln High School Boys and Girls Cross Country Team
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

January 7-8, 2012; Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, Indoor Track & Field, Boys and Girls
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

May 17-20, 2012; Toronto, Canada, Lincoln High School Band
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

June 1, 2012; Boston Six Flags, Lincoln Middle School Band
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

- j. Financial Report/Charter Schools Update/Edu-Jobs
Superintendent Fortunato reported that as of October 11th she has frozen the budget for the rest of this year for all non-essential spending. Lori Miller reported there hasn't been a lot of activity through September 30th, watching special ed tuition, special ed purchased services, utilities and transportation. She is now projecting a zero variance. UCOA is the reason for some of the overages; as she predicted, it would take three years to get into the groove. There are two students at the new Charter School for a total of 114 students, but 50 are vocational students at Davies. Tuition payout is \$707,528, with \$119,600 for Davies and reimbursement is five to six hundred dollars. Edu-Jobs is under the ARRA umbrella of funds. That will allow three positions on that grant to provide a bridge when the ARRA funds run out next year.
- k. 10-11 Audit Update
Lori Miller reported the auditors will be in next week to start their review. They will be there one week and their numbers will be transmitted to the Town and the report should be available by mid-December.

III. Civic Use of Buildings

- a. Lincoln Youth Soccer Association Banquet – 10/29/11 @ LMS
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.
- b. Zumba with Holly – Tuesday/Thursday 10/25/11 – 12/15/11 @ LHS
Motion to approve by Cavanaugh. Seconded by Zito. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

IV. Personnel Recommendations

Resignations

- a. Nancy Mercier
22 Jennifer Lane
No. Smithfield, RI 02896
From: PT TA 15hr/week – Northern Elementary
Effective: August 23, 2011
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.
- b. Maria Ruzzano
50 Abbott Run Valley Road, Unit 1931
Cumberland, RI 02864
From: Girls Assistant Tennis Coach – High School
Effective: September 2, 2011
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.
- c. Rhonda Romano
180 Crossing Drive, Apt. 304
Cumberland, RI 02864
From: Business Office Secretary
Effective: October 7, 2011
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0. Mary Anne Roll added with regret.
- d. Cheryl McComiskey
935 Roosevelt Avenue
Pawtucket, RI 02860
From: TA – Central Elementary
Effective: October 14, 2011
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

- X. Adjourn
Motion to adjourn at 8:33 PM by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

MARY VARR, CLERK

DATE