

LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND
MINUTES

DATE: February 13, 2012
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; Mary Varr, Clerk; Tracey Cavanaugh, Kristine Donabedian, John Lafleur, Mary Anne Roll

Others Present: Georgia Fortunato, Superintendent; Eric Banville, Julie Dorsey, 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 on 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 approve sealing the Executive Session minutes by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

Right to be Heard - None

I. Approval of Minutes

- a. January 9, 2012 Executive Session
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- b. January 9, 2012 Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- c. January 18, 2012 Special Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

II. Superintendent's Report

a. Citations

The Superintendent reported the winning word in the district Spelling Bee was *tableau*. Julie Zito announced the winner, Alexandra Fish, and John Lafleur presented Alexandra with a certificate of recognition. Fortunato announced the statewide spelling bee will be in the Middle School and wished Alexandra good luck.

Julie Zito announced the 2012 RI Scholastic Arts Competitions winners and John Lafleur presented them with certificates of recognition: Silver Key Award – Alexandra MacKenzie for *Cradle in Death's Hands* and Haeli Sammon for *Gourd from a still life for chalk pastel on paper*; Gold Key Award Francie Eannarino for *self portrait entitled "Me and Dan" for chalk pastel on paper*. Zito reported these will be put on the web site.

Julie Zito announced the band awards and John Lafleur presented them with certificates of recognition: Erik Broess for being named to the RI All State Jazz Band for guitar; Carlos Cosme for being named to the RI Junior All State Band for trumpet; Melissa Gianetti for being named to the RI Junior All State Symphonic Band for flute; Sabrina Hebert for being named to RI Junior All State Band for flute; Martine Lokken for being named to the RI All State Band for flute.

b. Lincoln High School Student Update

Principal McNamara introduced Barrett Jourdan, Student Director of the Variety Show. Barrett reported this is the 46th year of the Variety Show and there are over 90 students involved.

- c. Five Year Technology Plan Presentation by Michael Kerwin
Michael Kerwin had a digital presentation of the technology plan, beginning with some background information, trends in technology, success in standardized testing and details of the district-wide requirements. A technology enabled classroom would include interactive projector, projection screen, sound system, document camera, response system with wireless connectivity at a cost of \$4800 per classroom. Mr. Kerwin reviewed the current technology and what improvements can be made with a priority at the elementary level and then reviewed a two, three and five year implementation plan. The first year would be \$444,100 and the total at five years \$3,280,501.50.

A member of the audience asked if there was a law against bring your own device. The chair noted they already have their own policy on that. Another person commented they would like to see professional development in the project. Superintendent Fortunato explained professional development is in the operating budget and she felt that was critical in using technology. Someone questioned the cost rising from 2.7 to 3.2 million dollars. Discussion ensued regarding language labs, carts and equipment and that Priority 1 was voted on and 2 and 3 were tabled. Fortunato clarified there is an addition of only one staff member. A parent stated one of the reasons he moved to Lincoln was the schools and he supported the investment in technology.

- d. Vote to Approve Five Year Technology Plan
The Chair asked for approval of a recommendation of a Five Year Technology Plan Resolution to the Budget Board for consideration for inclusion in the 2012-2013 budget proposal in the process. Motion to approve by Donabedian. Seconded by Lafleur. Donabedian reviewed spending \$425,100 in the next fiscal year for Priority 1 of the plan just presented and that money will come from the operating surplus. They need to get the resolution on the agenda for the Financial Town Meeting according to the Town Charter. It needed a recommendation to the Budget Board and then to be approved by the voters. The Chair clarified her request for a motion was for the five year technology plan and she isn't certain that is the route they want to take. Zito noted they were looking at Priority 1 right now. Mary Anne Roll stated the five year plan is something the school committee considers and approves, but it is the funding they need to bring forward as part of the overall budget. They should move to authorize the Superintendent to request from the Budget Board a resolution to go before the members of the financial town meeting to consider funding the \$424,100 the first year out of their operating expenditures. Donabedian withdrew her motion and Lafleur withdrew the second. All in favor. The motion was withdrawn.

The chair explained there are two different issues, one being whether to approve the technology plan. Motion to approve the Technology Plan by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried.

- e. Consideration and Vote to Approve Five Year Technology Plan Resolution
The Chair explained the second item is just as important to get to the results of moving a proposed resolution forward to the Budget Board for their consideration, and hopefully their approval to be included in the budget process for this year. She presented the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Lincoln School Committee hereby directs the Superintendent of Schools to transfer an amount not to exceed \$444,100 from the accumulated school operating surplus of 2012-2013 from the school Capital Reserve account for the purchase of Priority 1 technology equipment and infrastructure per the Lincoln Public Schools Technology Plan. Any authorized appropriations that remain unexpended or unencumbered after the Priority 1 project is complete shall remain in the school Capital Reserve account and shall be used to fund all the rest of the project in according to the approved Lincoln Public School Technology Plan adopted January 13, 2012.

Motion to approve the resolution by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

- f. First Grade Teachers Presentation
Melinda Smith explained the PALS scores were used as a benchmark. The scores should be 81 at the mid-year point and they are exceeding that. Deb Shayer reported she noticed first graders are better prepared than in the past and attributes it to full day K. Alesandra Pina stated this year's group of students show sentence structure and mechanics are beyond what they normally see at this point in first grade. The new initiative TEEC helps students organize their ideas and construct written responses.

Kerri Salhaney reported first grade students have quickly become cooperative members in their math learning group. One expectation is they should be cooperative, kind and respectful with each other. This year's group are assisting each other. Their numbers senses are coming along nicely and their use of hands on manipulatives is developmentally appropriate. This year's students came better prepared and is directly linked to the extra exposure they received in full day kindergarten. Victoria Logan reported the optimal window for children to obtain social and emotional skills is 5-7 years of age and full day kindergarten allows for this. Full day kindergarten builds cooperation, communication and responsibility. These skills were better developed with this year's first grade students. Melinda Smith summed up that overall they are seeing good gains and they will be following this group.

g. Layoff/Non Renewal Notices

Motion to approve the layoff of 46 teachers by LaFleur. Seconded by Roll. All in favor.
Motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent Fortunato noted for the record there are 46 teachers on the list and seven are long-term substitute teachers.

h. NECAP Update

Melinda Smith started her report on the recent NECAP scores with discussing current revisions. Mathematics is aligned with the GLE and GSE and next year will align with the common core standards. After that they will gradually implement science, the year after that ELA and then the year after that Social Studies. All that change in curriculum will have an impact on test scores. Smith reported going up in reading in grades 5,7,8 and 11. They will be concentrating on reading in the content area for the comprehensive piece. Math went up in every level. Writing went up at the elementary level and the high school.

There was a small dip at the middle school. Next year they will be implementing a whole new math curriculum. There was an intervention block implemented at the elementary schools where teachers come together and look at areas students are weak in. Lafleur asked about some glaring issues at Saylesville. Smith explained they are giving some wrap around support for the teachers there. The Superintendent noted there were issues at the Middle School and Central Elementary and the teachers addressed them and math scores turned around and she expects the same from Saylesville. Smith stated they are working on an action plan. Roll asked about reaching partially proficient at the High School. Melinda reported there are remedial programs for students coming from 8th grade, Mr. McNamara added a period for math and last summer there was support for them.

i. Adoption of NW Consortium By Laws

Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

j. Financial Report/Charter Schools Update/Edu-Jobs

Lori Miller reported they have spent nearly 50% of their budget. Teacher salaries will be paid over the summer. She is cautiously optimistic they will have a surplus, due to the mild winter. She had budgeted \$295,000 for natural gas and have spent \$98,000. There is a small up-tick in special education tuitions, purchased services and technology. There will be a 5.6 increase in medical/dental benefits next year. Miller was told the medical trend is 10%, so claims are in good shape. The Metropolitan Regional Career School was added to their charter schools with five students. There are three at Middle College, 44 at Davies, ten at Beacon, 44 at Democracy Prep, seven at International Charter and two at CVS Highlander. Edu-Job money will be put into revenue next year and they won't have to cut people.

k. Out of State Field Trip Requests

March 3, 2012 Killingly Ski Resort; May 4, 2012, Spring Conference Boston University
Motion to approve by Donabedian. Second by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

III. Civic Use of Buildings

- a. Sophisticated Productions Dance Competition @ LHS 3/23/12, 3/24/12 & 3/25/12
- b. Town of Cumberland Recreation Department Dance @ LHS 5/19/12
- c. Fusion Works Dance Performance @ LHS 6/24/12

Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

IV. Personnel Recommendations

Retirements

- a. Michele McRoberts
6 Emery Road
Warren, RI 02885
The Superintendent made the recommendation with regret.
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- | | |
|------------|-------------------|
| From: | Art – High School |
| Effective: | June 2012 |

Resignations

- a. Jon Bruckner
PO Box 501
Lincoln, RI 02865
- | | |
|------------|---|
| From: | Girls Softball Head Coach – High School |
| Effective: | January 9, 2012 |
- b. Timothy Carpentier
55 Stephanie Ct.
Warwick, RI 02889
- | | |
|------------|--|
| From: | Girls Softball Assistant Coach – High School |
| Effective: | January 17, 2012 |
- c. Michael Tuorto
3 Meadow Ave.
No. Providence, RI 02911
- | | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|
| From: | Boys Tennis Head Coach – High School |
| Effective: | January 31, 2012 |
- d. Joseph Pascone
20 Alma Steet
Providence, RI 02908
- | | |
|------------|---|
| From: | Boys Indoor Track Assistant Coach – High School |
| Effective: | February 10, 2012 |
- e. Joseph Pascone
20 Alma Street
Providence, RI 02908
Motion to approve by Varr. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- | | |
|------------|--|
| From: | Boys Outdoor Track Assistant Coach – High School |
| Effective: | February 10, 2012 |

Leave of Absences

- a. Thomas Pesaturo
7 Thomas Drive
Lincoln, RI 02865
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- | | |
|------------|---|
| From: | Resource – High School |
| Effective: | February 13, 2012 – March 20, 2012 (1/2 day)
(Medical Leave - Extension) |

Long-Term Substitute Appointments

- a. Joanna Plamondon
10 Mecca St.
No. Providence, RI 02904
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- | | |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| From: | LTS Resource – High School |
| Effective: | February 13, 2012 – March 20, 2012 |
| Salary: | B-8 \$7,816.78
(Extension) |

Support Staff Appointments

- a. Kayleigh Carvalho
68 Carriage Drive
Lincoln, RI 02865
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- | | |
|------------|--|
| To: | Temporary PT 19 ¾ hr/week HR Assistant |
| Effective: | January 25, 2012 – July 13, 2012 |
| Salary: | \$12.50/hour |

Coaching Appointments

- a. Richard Ryan
26 Morin Street
Woonsocket, RI 02895
- | | |
|------------|--|
| To: | Girls' Softball Head Coach – High School |
| Effective: | 2011-2012 Spring Sports Season |
| Salary: | Per contract |

- b. Timothy Potter
8 Barbara's Way
Lincoln, RI 02865
Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.
- To: Boys' Tennis Assistant Coach – High School
Effective: 2011-2012 Spring Sports Season
Salary: Per contract

V. Awarding of Bid

a. Plasma Cutter

Lori Miller reported the plasma cutter is a piece of equipment used to cut steel and other metals, similar to a torch. This will be paid through the Perkins fund. Melinda Smith explained this is part of the curriculum of the Design & Engineering Academy. There was one bid.

Plasma Route CNC \$12,650

Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

VI. Salary Warrants

January 12, 2012 \$1,115,068.10

Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

January 26, 2012 \$1,118,456.13

Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

VII. Expense Warrants

January 26, 2012 2011-2011 FY \$1,595,619.92

Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

Capital Reserve \$3,800

Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

VIII. New Business

a. Home School Requests

- Ms. Christine Lusiak
- Ms. Keri Parkinson
- Ms. Jody Reagan

Motion to approve by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

IX. School Committee Reports

Kristine Donabedian reported the Charter School Committee met on February 9th and had a discussion on the state funding formula and how to keep students in the district. There is a lot to offer, not just curriculum but extra curricula activities. They discussed how to market this to keep people. They also talked about Pre-K. The Chair suggested having an agenda topic at the next School Committee meeting.

X. Community Comments

Mr. Almond asked they reconsider the second resolution regarding the technology plan because there is an opportunity to bring the whole plan forward to the Budget Board this year so they would know how to fund this year and future years. It doesn't mean it would all be funded, but he would like to see Priorities 1,2 and 3 presented. Committee members expressed concern for committing to all the numbers. Almond recommended referencing it next week so the voters would have a chance to see it. Mary Ann McComiskey wished Michele McRoberts the best in her retirement.

XI. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 9:14 PM by Zito. Seconded by Lafleur. All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.