

LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND  
MINUTES

DATE: March 14, 2016  
PLACE: Lincoln Middle School  
152 Jenckes Hill Road  
Lincoln, RI 02865  
TIME: 7:00 PM – Open Session

School Committee Members Present: Kristine Donabedian, Chair; Mary Anne Roll, Vice Chair;  
Tracey Cavanaugh, John LaFleur, Staci Rapko-Bruckner, Julie Zito  
Absent: John Carroll, Clerk

Others Present: Georgia Fortunato, Superintendent; Alec Ciminello, Marc Cobb, Kimberly Dixon,  
Caroline Frey, Mark Gadbois, Kim Laliberte, Kevin McNamara, Armand Milazzo, Lori Miller, Charlotte  
Tavares

Opening Ceremony

Right to be Heard – None.

Chairwoman Donabedian requested taking Citations out of order and there were no objections.

II. Superintendent's Report

a. Citations

The Chair introduced Mia Ackerman, member of the RI General Assembly, to make a presentation to **Christopher Relyea**. As a representative of the local delegation she presented Christopher with a Certification of Recognition by the House of Representatives for winning the 2016 RI State Spelling Bee.

Superintendent Fortunato reported **Christopher Relyea** won the Lincoln Public Schools District Spelling Bee for the third time. The winning word was *strudel*. He then won the RI State Spelling Bee for the second year in a row with the word *massacre*. Mary Anne Roll presented Christopher with a Certificate of Recognition for each.

Superintendent Fortunato announced the following Science Fair winners with John LaFleur presenting them with Certificates of Recognition:

**Ryan Tougas**, Fourth Place – *The Use of Solar Panels to More Efficiently Charge Portable Devices*

**Anya Filosi**, Third Place – *The Effect of Materials on Radioactive Decay*

**Alexa Laboissiere**, Second Place – *The Effect of Natural Pigments on the Power Output of Dye Sensitized Solar Cells*

**Kiran Thakur**, First Place – *The Amount of Energy Produced by One Step of a Piezoelectric Insole*

Superintendent Fortunato announced the following Athletic Awards and Julie Zito presented them with Certificates of Recognition:

**Julie Dariy Esenov** – RI State Championship for the High Jump

**Mollie Westrick** – RI State Swim Championship in the 50 meter free style and the 100 meter free style.

I. Consent agenda

Staci Rapko-Bruckner requested removing Yianiss Noel from the Consent Agenda. There were no objections.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by Cavanaugh. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

1. Salary Warrants
2. Expense Warrants
3. Out of State Field Trip Requests
4. Home School Request
  - Mr. Luther and Ms. Townsend
5. Personnel Recommendations

**Teacher Appointments**

- a. Fred Hoppe
- |            |                       |
|------------|-----------------------|
| To:        | ESY Coordinator       |
| Effective: | 2015-2016 school year |
| Salary:    | Per contract          |

**Leave of Absences**

- a. Alicia Kroszner
- |            |                               |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| From:      | English – Lincoln High School |
| Effective: | 2016-17 school year           |

**Support Staff Appointments**

- a. Timothy Dame
- |            |                         |
|------------|-------------------------|
| To:        | Groundskeeper/Custodian |
| Effective: | March 15, 2016          |
| Salary:    | \$17.58/hour            |

**Coaching Appointments**

- a. Charlene Snyder
- |            |                              |
|------------|------------------------------|
| To:        | JV Girls Lacrosse Coach      |
| Effective: | 2015-16 Spring Sports Season |
| Salary:    | Per Contract                 |
- b. Zachary Sailer
- |            |                                |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| To:        | Baseball Coach – Middle School |
| Effective: | 2015-16 Spring Sports Season   |
| Salary:    | Per Contract                   |
- d. Joseph Conti
- |            |                                |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| To:        | Softball Coach – Middle School |
| Effective: | 2015-16 Spring Sports Season   |
| Salary:    | Per Contract                   |
- e. Jared Monteiro
- |            |                                   |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| To:        | JV Volleyball Coach – High School |
| Effective: | 2015-16 Spring Sports Season      |
| Salary:    | Per Contract                      |
- f. Kevin Dicomitis
- |            |                                 |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| To:        | JV Baseball Coach – High School |
| Effective: | 2015-16 Spring Sports Season    |
| Salary:    | Per Contract                    |
- g. Brandon Lahoud
- |            |                                    |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| To:        | JV Boys Tennis Coach – High School |
| Effective: | 2015-16 Spring Sports Season       |
| Salary:    | Per Contract                       |
- (pending certification)*

**Information Only**

- a. Teacher Assignment Changes for the 2016-17 School Year
- 6. Approval of Regular Session Minutes
  - a. February 22, 2016
- 7. Approval of Executive Session Minutes
  - a. February 22, 2016

**Coaching Appointments**

- c. Yianiss Noel
  - To: Track Coach – Middle School
  - Effective: 2015-16 Spring Sports Season
  - Salary: Per Contract

Motion to approve by Cavanaugh. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 5-0, Rapko-Bruckner abstained.

**II. Superintendent's Report**

- b. Lincoln High School Presentation

Principal Kevin McNamara showed a video about the high school, including the importance of their core values, beliefs, expectations for learning. He noted they use tickets for the acronym, RISEUP – Respect, Integrity, Safety, Engagement, Unity, Pride. Paul Ruhle, Math Department Chair, spoke about the AP classes in calculus based physics. English Department Chair, Dave Schofield, talked about AP English and Composition. McNamara explained the academies and career readiness with Journalism and Broadcast, Law and Public Safety, Design and Engineering, Internal Business and Sports Marketing. Doreen Picozzi and Lisa Cardarelli explained they are hosting a straw election at the High School and had worked with the office of the Secretary of State. Students talked about their experiences in each of these departments. McNamara noted the importance of being a comprehensive high school. Kate Tompkins, President of the High School PACT, talked about how active they are and encouraged parents to become involved. Principal McNamara spoke to interventions with attendance, PBIS, RtI and special education. He noted they have a 94% graduation rate.
- c. Presentation Re Northern School Wide Title I

Caroline Frey explained this year when they apply for Title I they are applying for a full title, rather than targeted. She stated poverty brings money to the school and when a school reaches 40%, it becomes eligible for a full title for school wide programs. All students benefit, including after school programs, parent involvement, professional development for teachers and parents. Northern is currently at 53%, Central has 10%, Lonsdale has 29%, Saylesville has 31%. The Title I status has to be maintained for one year and then the status remains as full. Alec Ciminello explained they sent out a survey to parents. The question to parents about how to use the funds resulted in wanting a parent resource center and technology resources. It was noted there is a Title I after school program with a bus.
- d. Presentation Math Supports for Elementary Students

Caroline Frey explained they hired an interventionist at Northern, Colleen Randall, as well as Kasia Kidd, math coach for K, 1, 2 and Ann Whitelaw, math coach for 3,4,5. Colleen does group, individual and whole class interventions. They narrated videos of students solving math problems and using the mnemonic Read, Draw, Write.
- e. Approval of LHS Early Release Days – 1/13/17 & 5/26/17

Motion to approve by Cavanaugh. Seconded by Rapko-Bruckner. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

f. Vote to Approve Transfer to Capital Reserve

Motion to approve by Cavanaugh. Seconded by Rapko-Bruckner. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

g. Comprehensive Statewide Computer Science Initiative

The Superintendent reported that on March 7<sup>th</sup> she, Kristine Donabedian, Lori Miller and Dr. Frey attended the meeting where Governor Raimondo announced her goal to give every public school in RI the opportunity to provide computer science classes by December 2017. Amica is one of the partners subsidizing this initiative and has announced they will pay for professional development for all Lincoln teachers.

h. Financial Report/Charter School Update

The Business Manager reported she is still projecting a zero deficit and a zero surplus. She is meeting with their vendor regarding Medicaid but doesn't believe it will be good. There is a plus variance in retiree medical and a plus variance in gas and electric due to this winter. The Chair questioned a Capital expense and Miller stated she will have an answer at next month's meeting.

III. Awarding of Bids

a. Electricity

The Business Manager requested postponement until next month.

IV. Correspondence

a. Letter from LHS PACT Requesting Waiver of Facilities Fee - Taste of the Blackstone

The Chair read a letter from Kate Tompkins, President of the LHS PACT regarding the bill for custodial services for the annual Taste of Blackstone. Tomkins noted profit from the PACT events are used to benefit the entire school and should be exempt from the fees. Discussion ensued regarding the school policy and the fact this event was held on a Saturday. Other parent groups have been billed for Saturday events. Mary Anne Roll explained the policy committee has been working on this policy and invited Julie Zito to their next meeting. Since the PACT was unaware of the new policy it was suggested waiving the custodial fees for this event. Tompkins reported they raised approximately \$9,000. The restaurants donate the food, but there are some expenses.

Motion to approve by Rapko-Bruckner. Seconded by Roll and Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

V. New Business

a. Adoption of Resolution Regarding Gun Free Schools

Mary Schultz from the Coalition Against Gun Violence stated this is the same resolution as last year that has been expanded to include schools for everyone that is non-law enforcement.

Motion to approve by Cavanaugh. Seconded by Rapko-Bruckner. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

b. Approval of Reading Specialist Job Description

The Superintendent explained they just needed to revise the wording.

Motion to approve by Cavanaugh. Seconded by Roll. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

c. First Reading Revised Use of Facilities Policy KG

Tabled to next meeting.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

Mary Anne Roll reported the policy subcommittee met on the facilities policy and met with Justin Martin on the guidance survey and status of the website. They will meet again next month.

VII. School Committee Reports

Mary Anne Roll thanked the Superintendent and Mr. McNamara for attending a RIASC meeting with her at the Marriot with the Commissioner of Education. The School Board conference will be in Boston from April 9-11<sup>th</sup>. The local statewide meeting will be May 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts will be invited to speak on school board governance. Chairwoman Donabedian reported the Budget Board has invited them to a meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 at Town Hall. They have a list of agenda items. She encouraged everyone to attend. John LaFleur commented on the success of the Variety Show.

VIII. Community Comment

A parent commented that after hearing about the math coaches and PARCC, it was disappointing there was more discussion on the PARCC.

IX. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 9:25 PM by Rapko-Bruckner. Seconded by Cavanaugh. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

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JOHN CARROLL, CLERK

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DATE