

LINCOLN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND
MINUTES

DATE: March 12, 2018
PLACE: Lincoln Middle School
152 Jenckes Hill Road
Lincoln, RI 02865
TIME: 6:00 PM – Large Group Room
Executive Session (Closed) pursuant to R.I. General Laws Section 42-46-5(a)
1. Lincoln Middle School Principal Interviews 42-46-5(a)(1)
2. Discussion of Personnel Issues 42-46-5(a)(1)
3. Legal Advice Regarding Contracts for Services
4. Legal Advice Regarding Layoff/Non-Renewal Issues 42-46-5(a)(1)
5. Adjourn Executive Session
TIME: 7:15 PM – Open Session

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

Others Present: Georgia Fortunato, Superintendent; Caroline Frey, Mark Gadbois, Kevin McNamara, Armand Milazzo, Lori Miller, Reza Sarkarati, Rosemary Stein, Greg O'Connor

Convene Into Open Session

- a. Consider and Vote on Motion to Seal Executive Session Minutes
Motion to approve by Goho. Seconded by Picozzi. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.
- b. Notification to Public of Compliance with R.I. General Laws 42-46-4 & 5 as to Votes Taken
The Chair reported no votes were taken in Executive Session.

Opening Ceremony

Right to be Heard – None.

I. Consent agenda

Motion to approve by Goho. Seconded by Picozzi, Rapko-Bruckner. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

1. Salary Warrants
2. Expense Warrants
3. Disposition of Obsolete Textbooks
4. Out of State Field Trip Requests
5. Personnel Recommendations

Retirements

- a. Linda Valentine
From: Custodian (second shift) – High School
Effective: May 31, 2018

Resignations

- a. Barbara Maher
From: Middle School Assistant Principal
Effective: June 29, 2018

Administrator Appointment

- a. Thomas Mellen
To: Middle School Principal
Effective: July 2, 2018

Leaves of Absence

- a. Christine Clarke
From: Social Studies – Middle School
Effective: 2/19/18 – 5/18/18
- b. Alicia Kroszner
From: English – High School
Effective: 2018-19 School Year

Long Term Substitute Teacher Appointment

- a. Jeffrey Lumb
To: LTS Social Studies – Middle School
Effective: 3/5/18 – 5/18/18
Salary: M-1 Pro-rated
- b. Lynn Sylvia
To: LTS Resource – Middle School
Effective: 3/12/18 – End of School Year
Salary: CAGS-7 Pro-rated

Support Staff Appointments

- a. Johnny Calise
To: Custodian (second shift) – Middle School
Effective: March 13, 2018
Salary: \$18.84/hr.

Coaching Appointments

- a. Nicholas Maresca
To: Golf Head Coach – High School
Effective: Spring Sports Season
Salary: \$2,635 (*pending certification*)

Information Only

- a. Custodian Assignment Changes (effective 2/20/18)

- 6. Approval of Regular Session Minutes
 - a. February 12, 2018
- 7. Approval of Executive Session Minutes
 - a. February 12, 2018

II. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Fortunato announced the Middle School Principal is Thomas J. Mellen, currently Principal at Ricci Middle School in North Providence. He will start July 2nd. She noted how he promotes a positive school culture. Mr. Mellen stated his goal is school excellence.

a. Citations

Mary Anne Roll presented a Certificate of Recognition to the District Spelling Bee Winner, with the winning word, *filibuster*:

Lohith Chatragadda

The following were presented Certificates of Recognition by Joseph Goho and Julie Zito for the Girls Swimming RIIL Division II Sportsmanship Award:

Amanda Allen, Jewelle Arruda, Caroline Bucacci, Jenna Burlingame, Nora Cunningham, Mini DaCosta, Sara Degnan, Hailey Gagnon, Emma Gianetti, Lily Jacobson, Natalie Jorge, Gianna Mardo, Katharina Nolan, Riley Phillips, Melissa Pierce, Francesca Plante, Rachael Smith, Alicia Turcotte, Anna Yygoder, Natalie Wetrick, Aliana Winn, Tom Diiorio, Head Coach, Matthew Parenteau, Assistant Coach

The following were presented Certificates of Recognition by Joseph Goho and Julie Zito for the Boys Swimming RIIL, Division II Sportsmanship Award:

Thomas Almond, McGovern Brown (Div. III Champion in the 200 Yard Individual Medley and 100 Yard Backstroke), Charles Bucacci, Jack Charbonneau, Captain, Eric Clauson, Jason Figueiredo, Ryan Fleming, Captain, Benjamin Goho (Division III Champion in the 100 Yard Breaststroke), Brendan L'Esperance, Dimitry Lineker, Charles London, Ezekiel Loureiro, Derrick Nault, Giorgio Nunez, Marc Rosenthals, Benjamin Weggeland, Nathanael Whiting, Zachary Zito, Tom Diiorio, Head Coach, Matthew Parenteau, Assistant Coach

The following Wrestling State Champions were presented Certificates of Recognition by John Picozzi:

Christian Balon, Jeremy Batista, Jaiden Camelli, Eric Chin, Sean Chin, Aidan Gould, Julien Karraz, Lyric Logan, Mason Lynch, Noah Peloquin, Jebran Saqib, Allen Setaro, Evan Suslovich, Jordan Viera, Thomas Wright, Aykut Yakut, Michael Tuorto, Head Coach, Anthony Turchetta, Jr., Assistant Coach

b. Lonsdale Elementary School Showcase

Principal Stein started her presentation with a video of kindergartners reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and singing the Star Spangled Banner. She talked about their work with the Highlander Institute. Stein showed pictures of all the grades at Lonsdale participating in blended learning, looping in grade 4 and students using technology.

c. NECAP Presentation

Dr. Frey explained the 2017 NECAP assessment in science. She stated the testing in 2018 will still be performance based in knowledge and skills, but will be computer based and shorter. The test window is May 14 to June 1 for grades 5, 8 and 11.

d. Athletic Fields Update

Athletic Director Greg O'Connor showed the poor conditions at Lime Acres and the Saylesville softball field. He has worked with the Rec Department on this and had someone from Yard Works look at the fields to get an idea of the cost to repair the fields. O'Connor stated the Middle School isn't able to use the Lime Acres field so he has moved the boys to the Chet Nichols field and the girls to Lonsdale. The Chair noted these are town fields that are used by the school district, just as the town uses the school fields during the summer. Joseph Goho suggested this should be added to the Town Council agenda.

e. School Safety

The Superintendent stated the School Safety Committee has been very active, but details cannot be discussed in public. She has asked principals to remind secretaries to be mindful of who they are buzzing in and to remind staff not to leave doors open in warmer weather and not let anyone in. They are looking at what other measures can be taken. They want to promote kindness and watch who sits alone at lunch or plays alone at recess. Personalization is key.

There is a new drop off at the middle and high schools. The Chair noted they will be given updates at school committee meetings. Joseph Goho commented on how ALICE is communicated by teachers to students and it should be practiced every year. Training is needed with the kids.

f. Approval of 2018-19 School Calendar

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

g. Approval of Middle School Dean of Students Job Description

Motion to approve by Goho. Seconded by Picozzi. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

h. Approval of Revised Middle School Assistant Principal Job Description

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

i. Layoff/Non-Renewal Notices

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

j. 2017 Audit Report Update

The Business Manager stated there were no recommendations. They received a clean opinion on the town and school. The fund balance is \$1,690,655.

k. Financial Report/Charter School Update

Lori Miller stated she is still projecting a zero variance. There is a positive variance in medical and they still have expenses for Chet Nichols Field. There may be an overage in purchased services. They should end the year with a surplus.

III. Awarding of Bid

a. Natural Gas

The Business Manager reported she received a very volatile bid over seventy cents what they currently pay and was advised to wait until next month.

IV. Correspondence

a. Letter from Ms. Cunha, Center for Dynamic Learning, requesting waiver of facilities fees for use of middle school auditorium and one classroom on April 11, 12, 14 & 15, 2018.

The Chair dispensed with reading the letter.

V. Civic Use of Buildings

a. Center for Dynamic Learning, Lincoln Middle School, *including waiver request*

- April 11, 12, 14, & 15, 2018 (Central Elementary rehearsals and performances)

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

VI. Capital Updates

a. Water Meter – Middle School

The Business Manager reported the water meter malfunctioned so they had to remove the meter, cut a pipe and patch it together. It will cost about \$20,000 for the water meter. She recommends amending the budget and get reimbursed from the State.

b. Columns – Administration Building

Lori Miller reported that one of the columns started to lean after a storm because the base has rotted. Now the other three columns are not in great shape. The cost would be \$32,000 to repair. The insurance company is having a structural engineer look at them and if they are not load bearing, they can remove them.

VII. New Business

a. Development and Vote on New Superintendent Profile

The Chair reported they received a good number of responses to the survey. She stated she would ask for the Committee members' top quality or attribute they are looking for in a Superintendent. Kristine Donabedian stated the low income population is growing and it needs support. Joseph Goho stated he thought it should be someone with experience working with a bond, working with RIDE and a facility committee and budgets. They should have central office experience. Mary Anne Roll stated experience is her number one concern because they will have to build a team. The Chair said business acumen was listed as well as ability to analyze data and to be a life learner. Stacy Rapko-Bruckner would like to know how the Superintendent would maximize the high school. John Picozzi stated communication is important. Joseph Goho said he would like the candidate to speak to academic needs from special education to AP.

Motion to approve the leadership profile by Goho. Seconded by Rapko-Bruckner. All in favor.

Motion carried 6-0.

b. 2017-18 NESDEC Enrollment Projections

Joseph Goho stated the projection has changed significantly. The new projection is 1% to 1.5% each year through 2028. There is a 22% increase overall, instead of 5%. He noted the Budget Board has asked for a plan to address staffing levels related to declining enrollments. The school department has reduced certified staff and closed a school. Now the enrollment is increasing and has significant implications for the reno plan at the high school. The Chair noted this should be brought to the attention of the architect.

c. First Reading Internet Filtering Policy

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

d. Approval of Resolution Supporting School Construction General Obligation Referendum

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

e. Approval of One-Year Extension of MacColl YMCA Licensed Before/After School Child Care

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

f. Approval of One Year or Three Year Extension of Student Information System Software Contract

Motion to approve the recommendation for a three-year extension by Goho. Seconded by Roll.

All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

VIII. Subcommittee Reports

Joseph Goho reported the budget subcommittee has met with the Budget Board and Town Administrator. They still need to find a way to bridge the gap. Staci Rapko-Bruckner reported meeting on policies for gate receipts, requirements of tools for schools and taking care of air quality indoors. They may have to amend the policy for buses to include all vehicles. The Chair noted they talked about transportation with the Budget Board. She has asked the policy subcommittee to research transportation policies in other districts and try to find a savings. Joseph Goho added talking about bringing in a performance auditor. Mary Anne Roll noted she would like to get a count on bus usage for AM and PM. Julie Zito reported the Reno Project is working with SMMA. An RFQ is out for a construction manager position. Thursday, March 22nd is the next meeting.

IX. School Committee Reports – None.

X. Community Comment

Fred Hoppe offered kudos for the 2017-2018 hires, stating the Athletic Director was a home run. He respectfully requested adding a teacher from every level to the Safety Committee as they see things the administrators don't always see. John Zangari commented on the Superintendent wish list, stating he hoped they wouldn't tie their hands to look at only those who have been a superintendent; they might miss a good candidate. He recommended if they don't see an applicant they want, to hold the applications and re-advertise. John also suggested buses could use bio-fuel and some buses can run on vegetable oil.

XI. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 9:56 PM by Rapko-Bruckner. Seconded by Goho. All in favor. Motion carried 6-0.

STACI RAPKO-BRUCKNER, CLERK

DATE