

LYNNFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES – Regular Meeting September 15, 2015

Pursuant to notice September 1, 2015 at the High School Media Center at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Mrs. Presser, Mrs. Cleary, Dr. Cammarata,  
Mr. Doyle, Mr. Hayman,

Others Present: Mrs. Tremblay, Mrs. Vernon, three members of the press, Doug Hodgkins, Thomas Geary, Robert Cleary, Stephen Ralston, Jennifer DiBiase, Brian Bemiss, Maureen Fennessy, Kara Mauro, Derrick Munyon, 1 member of the community

Mrs. Cleary opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

1. Minutes for Approval

Mrs. Presser MOVED to approve the regular meeting minutes of September 15, 2015. Mr. Doyle seconded the motion.

VOTED: Unanimously in favor

2. Student Advisory Report

Kiley Choi, our new Student Advisor, spoke about activities going on at the High School despite the heat. She spoke about a water fountain in the cafeteria so students can refill their water bottles, which helps the environment. Kiley mentioned that the new Chrome Books this year are a lot faster than the old ones.

5. Educatus Report

Mrs. Tremblay spoke about the Educatus students this year. We have five students this year. Three are full year and two are half year students. All the students have host families. Two girls and three boys represent Italy, Germany and Spain.

3. Choral Trip to New York

Douglas Hodgkins reviewed his plans for a Choral Trip to New York from April 8 - April 10, 2016. The cost will be \$550. The School Committee had questions about why a performance was not scheduled and about the finalization of all the activities.

The School Committee approved the group to start fund raising, and the Committee will vote on the trip at their next meeting.

4. School Improvement Plans

**Preschool**

Kara Mauro, Maureen Fennessy and Derrick Munyon presented the Preschool Improvement Plan. The three of them plus Christina Ryan and Jennifer DiBiase make up the Professional Preschool Leadership Team./Professional Learning Community Team. They meet weekly with teachers, do classroom walk

through(s) and provide training for the teachers. The preschool teachers will be observing colleagues in other classrooms at the school. The new DLP Program will be for more needy students. It will buildup prerequisite skills, classes will be mixed, and behavior assessments will be in place. Paraprofessionals will be taking more of an instructional role and they are being trained by Derrick.

The Preschool Goals for next year are:

- **Professional Learning Community**

The goal is to form a school culture (PLC) at the preschool level to ensure high quality early childhood education that is accountable to the schools and the community. Education is a partnership that involved the students, their families, teachers, administrators, School Committee and the community. The relocation of Lynnfield Preschool to Summer Street School will provide the opportunity to improve preschool student achievement and school performance.

- **Data and Assessment**

To use data to evaluate and connect activities, articulate mastery learning targets and provide frequent ongoing feedback to teachers to inform affective teaching and learning. The Preschool Leadership Team will consult with all teachers/therapists at the preschool level as they work collaboratively to support implementation of mastery learning objectives as outlined in the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework. Teachers will identify additional resources to supplement mastery learning objectives based on these standard. Common instruction and assessment practices will be developed and refined in order to support student achievement. Data will continue to be collected, analyzed and discussed at grade level assessment meetings to determine student proficiency. Collaborative analysis of student data will direct a systematic approach to instructional planning in order to support the literacy growth of all learners. Action plans in the areas of professional development and instructional practices will be designed and implemented to support student achievement.

### **Elementary**

Brian Bemiss and Jennifer DiBiase presented the elementary schools School Improvement Plans.

The Elementary Goals for next year are:

- **To maximize student achievement in the area of Science**

The Director of Mathematics and Science will consult and support all teachers at the elementary level as they work collaboratively at and across grade levels to implement the 2013 revised draft of the Massachusetts Science/Engineering Standards. The goal is to have the science standards fully aligned to the 2013 revised draft of the Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering Standards for full implementation during the 2016-2017 school year.

- **Academic Achievement in the Area of English Language Arts**

The Director of English Language Arts/Social Studies will continue to consult with all teachers at the elementary level as they work collaboratively at grade levels and across grade levels to support implementation of mastery learning objectives as outlined in the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.

- **Improve and enhance vocabulary instruction to maximize student achievement**

Following the work of the 2014-2015 ELA Curriculum Review Committee, all elementary teachers will participate in the development and implementation of a K-12 continuum of instruction for teaching vocabulary. Best practices for vocabulary instruction will be discussed, modeled and implemented across all disciplines.

### **Middle School**

Stephen Ralston presented the Middle School Improvement Plan

The Middle School Goals for next year are:

- **Enhance Performance on Comprehensive State exams**

Each Spring all students at LMS take the MCAS exams for ELA and Mathematics and students in grades 5 & 8 take the MCAS exam for Science, Technology, and Engineering. We strive to increase the number of students achieving proficient and advanced scores as well as advance our identified subgroups. Additionally, we will prepare students for the computer-based PARCC exam, should that replace MCAS in 2016.

- **Enhance Communication within the LMS Community**

Much communication already occurs between LMS and the parent community. However, there are meaningful opportunities for school to parent communication that have yet to be realized and established as practice.

- **Improve and enhance vocabulary instruction to maximize student achievement across all disciplines**

Following the work of the 2014-2015 ELA Curriculum Review, department will complete the development and implementation of a K-12 continuum of instruction for teaching vocabulary. Best Practices for vocabulary instruction will be modeled and implemented across all disciplines.

### **High School**

Robert Cleary presented the High Schools School Improvement Plan

The High School Goals for next year are:

- **Explore alternative educational experiences and broaden student learning opportunities in nontraditional ways**

A Committee will be formed to create protocols and guidelines to establish an internship program. The internship program will be piloted by a limited number of students in the first year, with the hope for expansion in subsequent years. The program will include experiences in and out of the building based on building need and student inquiry. Building based programs will be similar to our Student Helpdesk model and may include Markerspace, Robotics, Academic help centers, etc. External programs will be determined by student proposals.

- **To provide students with the opportunity to earn college credit while completing their high school diploma**

A Committee will be formed to create protocols and guidelines to establish an early college program for high school students. LHS will partner with other local high schools and North Shore Community College to develop a dual enrollment type of program that will provide students the opportunity to earn college credit in specific areas of study while fulfilling their high school graduation requirements.

- **Develop and implement a 9-12 continuum of instruction for teaching text based vocabulary through English Language Arts courses**

Following the work of the 2014-2015 ELA Curriculum Review, and piloting of the ELA text based vocabulary program through a small selection of English Language Arts courses the program will be implemented throughout the remaining English 9-12 courses. Best practices for vocabulary instruction will be discussed, modeled and implemented across all English Language Arts courses with the intent of expanding the program across disciplines in subsequent years.

6. Budget Calendar

Mrs. Tremblay reviewed the tentative Budget Calendar. Mr. Hayman pointed out that there will be three public reviews of the proposed School budget before the School Committee votes on the final budget to present to the Town.

8. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Tremblay reported on the following:

- Update on Roll-out of District Strategy - very thoughtful feedback from teachers
- Open Houses - great feedback
- SRO - Patrick Curran - very visible in the schools

9. Matters for Action:

District Strategic Plan

Mrs. Presser MOVED to approve the District Strategic Plan as presented at the 9/1/2015 School Committee meeting. Mr. Doyle seconded the motion. Chairman

Cleary pointed out that it is a fluid document that will change as work is completed.

VOTED: Unanimously in favor

Mr. Doyle MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 PM. Mr. Hayman seconded the motion.

VOTED: Unanimously in favor

Respectfully Submitted,

Myra Vernon  
School Committee Secretary

School Improvement Booklet  
Choral Trip information  
Budget Calendar