

# LYNNFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## MINUTES – Regular Meeting January 26, 2016

Pursuant to notice January 26, 2016 at the High School Media Center at 7:00 PM

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

Absent: Mrs. Presser - joined Committee remotely at 7:55 PM

Others Present: Mrs. Tremblay, Mrs. Vernon , 2 members of the press, Thomas Geary, Kara Mauro, Christina Noce, Maureen Fennessy, Jennifer DiBiase, Brian Bemiss, Christine Sartorelli, Jill McEwen, Traci Ross, Kara Mauro, Kathleen Dario

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

### 1. Minutes for Approval

Mr. Doyle MOVED to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 5, 2016.  
Mr. Hayman seconded the motion.

VOTED:        4 - Yes  
                     1 - absent - Mrs. Presser

### 2. FY16 Budget Update

Mr. Geary Updated the Committee on the FY16 budget. Mostly due to overages in the SPED budget, he projected we will only be able to prepay \$50,000 (\$176,059 - prepaid June, 2015 for the FY16 Budget) towards out of district tuition in June, 2016 for the FY17 Budget.

### 3. Kindergarten Presentation

Mrs. Fennessy and Mrs. Noce provided a Kindergarten presentation that centered around full-day Kindergarten. Presently all our Kindergarten classes are hybrid models that have both full day and .7 students in all classes. They addressed the benefits of full-day Kindergarten across the board. Some benefits they cited were: increased instructional time that could provide more mixed-ability grouping, academic support and individualized instruction plus more child-initiated activities. They also spoke about the social and emotional benefits centering around purposeful play, conduct, socialization and conflict resolution. Mrs. Fennessy and Mrs. Noce commented how social/emotional stress for students is widespread, not only in Lynnfield, but in all communities. They also said that many surrounding communities have gone to full-day Kindergarten, most recently: Sudbury, Hamilton and Wakefield.

A major factor in supporting full-day Kindergarten is to allow us to effectively comply with the increased Kindergarten curriculum (Frameworks) mandated by the DESE. Mrs. Fennessy and Mrs. Noce pointed out how over the years the rigor has changed in Kindergarten, as shown by an increase in Kindergarten students required knowledge base. In addition, benchmarks are no longer “suggested knowledge”; the students now are “expected mastery”. In responding to a question from the Committee, Mrs. Fennessy and Mrs. Noce indicated that this rigor will trickle down to the Preschool. Mr. Hayman asked if we have data on

our 11th graders regarding their hours at preschool and how well they are doing academically now. Mrs. Tremblay stated that we do not have that data. She stressed that in the past she told parents that if they chose to send their child .7, they will come out academically the same as the children in the full-day Kindergarten. She feels she can not longer say that.

4. FY17 Superintendent's Budget Recommendations

Mrs. Tremblay presented her Budget Recommendations to the Committee. She stated that this proposed budget supports our District Strategy Objectives and the District's Mission for continuous growth in teaching and learning. It also reflects a fiscally responsible mindset.

Superintendent Tremblay focused on five key areas in the proposed budget:

- Restructure the Executive Secretary of Curriculum and Personnel's position - Director of Teaching and Learning
- Provide a tuition free full-day kindergarten program for all of our students - (explained above)
- Reassign (2) Middle School classroom teachers to the elementary schools to support equity in class size at all levels
- Expand the elementary music program - hire .5 teacher
- Further develop special education programming at the preschool level - hire preschool teacher + paraprofessional

Capital requests:

- Continued maintenance and upgrades for district-wide infrastructure and networking technology
- Complete the expansion of the wireless network to meet the requirements for the increasing amount of mobile devices and web based curriculum initiatives

Appropriation Request: \$22,865,421., which represents a 4.5% increase

Capital Budget Request: \$250,000.

Dr. Cammarata thanked Mrs. Tremblay for her well thought out, well planned and very analytical presentation. The question was asked if the Director of Teaching and Learning would have an evaluative role and the answer was "no".

5. Educatius Discussion and **Vote** (2016-2017)

Mrs. Tremblay stated that the Educatius program has been very successful at the High School. She commented that she would like to continue supporting it with up to ten (10) students next year. Mr. Doyle asked if there were any discipline problems with any of the students. Mrs. Tremblay said no. She mentioned Mr. Cleary's recent ten day trip to China (funded by Educatius) to recruit students. He learned that some districts/private schools offer residential housing for four (4) years and students earn a degree. Mr. Cleary feels that he has a great handful of student that are interested in coming to Lynnfield next year.

Mr. Hayman MOVED to approve admitting up to ten (10) Educatius students to the High School for the 2016-2017 school year. Dr. Cammarata seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTED: Unanimously in Favor  
Mrs. Presser voted remotely

6. METCO Discussion and **Vote** on incoming students (FY17)  
Mrs. Tremblay stated that for the past few years we have accepted four (4) Kindergarten METCO students. She suggested continuing that next year but hold off on school placements until we know enrollment figures.

Mr. Hayman MOVED to approve admitting four (4) Kindergarten METCO students for the 2016-2017 school year. (placement to be determined) Dr. Cammarata seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTED: Unanimously in Favor  
Mrs. Presser voted remotely

7. Superintendent's Report  
Mrs. Tremblay reported on the following:

- Mr. Cleary's Trip to China - covered under #5 - Educatius

9. Matters for Action

Mr. Hayman MOVED to approve the High School Program of Studies for the 2016-2017 school year as presented to the Committee. Mr. Doyle seconded the motion

ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTED: Unanimously in favor  
Mrs. Presser voted remotely

Mr. Hayman MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Cammarata seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTED: Unanimously in favor  
Mrs. Presser voted remotely

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Myra Vernon  
School Committee Secretary

FY16 Budget Update  
Kindergarten Presentation  
FY17 Superintendent's Budget Recommendation

