

# Lincoln Sudbury Parent Organization Meeting Minutes

## October 3, 2023

### Mission Statement:

The LSPO is dedicated to facilitating engagement and communication between families and the school, as well as partnering with faculty and administration to support underfunded staff needs, student activities and efforts that encourage school spirit.

The meeting commenced at 7:05 pm with the following people in attendance at LSRHS Conference Room B: Solange Lavanchy, Joanna Garvin, Mo Carty, Susan Wolpe, Emily Amico, Jenn Le Mire, Jeanette Tsai, Anne Yazdani, Sara Friere, Karim Pirani, JunLing Zhou, Kunjan Jhaveri, Angela Zapata  
On Zoom were: Deb Cooley, Jessica Moore, Holly TenBrook

### Treasurer's Report:

Mo Carty reported on the budget. We have \$8700 in direct appeal donations and another \$6800 from the directory sales, and \$1K from the class of 2023. Each year we operate at roughly \$20K. The LSPO could stand to cut here and there if possible, however, we have roughly 35K in the bank and will be okay for now, if we run as is. However, Mo cautioned that we have to find ways to cut back or fundraise more to stay afloat down the road. Perhaps moving the current balance into something that yields a higher return is also an option, but not a solution long term. The budget was voted on and the motion passed unanimously.

### Committee Reports:

The following committees were highlighted and asked to report on their functions, accomplishments and plans for future activities:

### Hospitality:

Anne reported the committee received \$565 in donations for the BTSN dinner, which was catered by All Town Fresh. Food was a hit, as were the thank you notes from families, either hard copies or done online. They switched it up a bit this year and all was well received. They will have their Sweets and Savories up next in February.

### **Welcome and Recruiting:**

Solange gave an update on the first Boo Hoo Breakfast that happened on First Adventure day. About 30 parents showed up, as did the Superintendent and all four APs. The families found it very helpful to ask questions of current families and the administration in attendance. Light refreshments were served.

### **LSRHS Directory:**

Susan discussed that this is likely the last year of the printed directory. It will move to all online. The senior class delivers them as part of a fundraiser. Bit of a delay this year due to a large number of new hires by LS. Discussed how families with an asterisk next to them have signed the pledge.

### **Communications Committee:**

Jeannette let us know that the team continues to work on newsletter submissions, maintain the website and has migrated everything to Google Workspace. Also created dedicated email addresses for different LSPO groups, which will pass down when different people take over a role. They are also working on an Instagram presence. There is an issue with current online submissions to the newsletter and they've been having folks email them the content for now. Karim mentioned the LSPO is a valuable site and we should aim to leverage it as often as possible for information for families.

### **Community Ties:**

Angela Zapata worked with the LSPO and the METCO director to get LS sweatshirts for freshmen and seniors. They were very well received and they may do a pop up store so the other grades can purchase them. They will continue to give to 9th and 12th graders until all current students have one, then just 9th graders moving forward. Angela continues to try and find the best ways to engage the METCO students and their families. Perhaps football games, other evening events, to help foster a larger sense of community and stronger connections. All ideas welcome!

### **Class Steering Committees:**

With Faculty and LSPO Parent Advisors, each of the Class Steering Committees have activities underway:

- Class of 2026 Emily Amico reported they will work on learning the Snack Shack ropes for next year and that they are working on getting a general permit for classes to be able to sell raffle tickets at BTSN.

While the LSPO contributes to Class activities, the Steering Committees are sponsored by LS staff and parent volunteers. Each Class also maintains a dedicated page that lists all activities in progress on the main LSRHS website.

Anyone interested in participating on one (or more) of the LSPO sponsored committees is encouraged to contact any committee member or one of the LSPO Executive Board Members.

### **New Business:**

Sara Friere presented the idea of having LS install inspirational message decals throughout the school. The idea has been presented to Tracy Ryan and they are discussing it among the other APs, buildings and grounds, etc. to decide if they want to run with it. Questions of funding \$450 for a set of 15 (our budget? Mini grant?) location/placement, durability, were discussed and Sara will work to get

answers to some of those, while LS admin will have to approve from their end. The person who wrote the book that inspired the messages is also a public speaker, perhaps consider having her discuss positive self image and confidence in sports as well. Also noted we have to check the bylaws around funding initiatives that come from parents vs. the school.

Parent forums with Andrew Stephens - Mo reported we have the first one scheduled for 10/19 from 6-7:30. This is an open forum for parents to informally chat with the superintendent. Perhaps alternating between one morning, one evening, one online, etc. throughout the year for more engagement with the parent community. Working to come up with a catchy name for these sessions!

### **Co-Chair's Report:**

Solange concluded the meeting with an update on the many important projects they are discussing with various teachers, students, and administrators. These include:

1. A group of students organizing a donation to Dignity Matters.
2. A request from the superintendent for the LSPO to purchase t-shirts for new staff hires. Questions include: would this fall under a mini-grant? Would this be a line item every year? Cost? Do we want to fund this?
3. Mini -Grants: Solange covered the parameters. Requests come in October and February, groups of nine LSPO committee members discuss, request additional info, and vote on each one.
4. How do we better reach all parts of LS (LS Academy, Beacon, etc.) during the year and during exam weeks when we have the Zen Zone?

The LSPO Executive Board and Committee members are committed to understanding when and how we can assist and support the LS teachers and administration.

The meeting concluded at 9:05 pm with a motion from Solange that was supported by all in attendance.

The next LSPO meeting is scheduled for 7pm on December 12, 2023. More info to follow. We hope to see you there!

Minutes submitted for consensus approval by Joanna Garvin,  
LSPO Secretary  
Approved in Dec 12 Meeting