

Linden School Site Council  
Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
Time: 6:00 PM Meeting  
Location: Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/92540348984>  
Requested By: Rafael A. Garcia, Linden School Principal

## LSA Meeting Notes

### I. Roll Call

- Rachel Running
- Elaine Corpuz
- Kevin Graham
- Rafael Garcia
- Heather Provenzano

### II. Approval of Minutes from January 12, 2021 meeting

- Rachel

### III. Principal's Report

- Events tonight:
  - PTO is holding a fundraiser at Pisa Pizza—dine in & take out. 15% of proceeds goes to our PTO to fund activities and support our students.
  - Title I Cyber Security Event on Zoom
  - K conferences
- 2/14/22 begins Friendship Week
  - Linden will focus on kindness and friendship including:
    - Weeklong: Penny drive 2/14-2/19 in which students can donate pennies (or larger) to the American Heart Association in honor of MacKenzie
    - Weeklong: Students are writing Valentines to send to Bread of Life to go in with grocery deliveries to the elderly.
    - 2/14 Friendship Day—students are writing friendship messages to all students in their class in place of Valentine's Day celebrations
    - 2/15 Take what you Need—Positive notes will be placed on the bulletin board to spread kindness to students & staff.
    - 2/16 Wear Read for MacKenzie & Heart Awareness
    - 2/17 Think of someone you know—think of
    - 2/18 Random Acts of Kindness Bulletin Board in the main lobby—students can choose an act of kindness to participate in that day, throughout the week, month, and longer!
  - Rachel commented that she loves this focus on kindness.
  - Kevin agreed and added that he likes the focus on kindness and friendship rather than love.
- Moment of Silence requested by Ray in honor of MacKenzie Fitzgibbons, a first grade student who passed.

### IV. Family Liaison: Genesis Lacen

- Genesis shared that her role & current happenings:
  - Resource store brings resources to families that need them. Using Google forms & QR codes to expedite getting resources to families.
  - Helping with translating services in both Spanish and Portuguese.
  - Supporting students in their classes
  - Supporting families as they enter the school/city.
  - Helping families make connections with community resources, including ABCD Mystic Valley resources which is connected to Cradles to Crayons.

- Connecting with families that are currently in the shelter
- Coordinating family fun events: Fall Extravaganza was a great event for families to connect. Spring event coming up.
- Rachel commented that it sounds like Genesis is doing amazing work and grateful to have her as part of the community.
- Working towards:
  - Tech Goes Home program—offers computer classes to families/students within the school
  - Food pantry at Linden—engaging 8th grade students in giving back to the community.
- Kevin had previous experience working with Genesis and found her to be a great advocate for his family.
- Rachel offered to connect Genesis with models of the food pantry within the school on the Northshore. There's a Tech Goes Home director in the Linden neighborhood that Rachel will gladly put Genesis in contact with. Genesis confirmed she'd like both connections; Rachel will email her.

#### V. Memorial Services

- Ray was in contact with MacKenzie's family on 1/22/22.
- Many Linden community and staff members wanted to support the family.
- Kevin contacted Mayor Christensen to find a city-wide way to celebrate MacKenzie.
- Linden will be open on 2/26/22 from 11-2 for a memorial service for MacKenzie.
- Kevin shared that the City of Malden and the Mayor's office have been a godsend in planning this memorial for MacKenzie. Some tweaks to programming. The Fitzgibbon family have asked that this be a celebration of life with everyone wearing bright colors. Her favorite colors were blue, pink, & red and Frozen was her favorite movie.
- Genesis shared that many staff have purchased gift cards for the family & those will be delivered to the family tomorrow 2/10/22. The family invites anyone that would like to bring balloons
- Rachel mentioned that Balloons filled with Love is a Malden based company that she would reach out to see if they would donate balloons.
  - Kevin confirmed that Waldina (PTO president) was in contact with someone about balloons for the service.
- Ray confirmed

#### VI. New Items

- Justin Umlah joined to share that we have implemented a morning news programs, LSA News, for the past month. This news is a way to communicate PBIS expectations. Open to 5-8 students to host and/or write the script.
  - Includes daily weather report, reminders about school safety & PBIS expectations, and a review of the new color-coded, hall pass system. Shares important information & dates. Shout outs by Tyrone the Tiger daily to acknowledge accomplishments.
  - Rachel shared that her 2nd grade student loves the news & shares out the daily updates.
  - Elaine second that the students love it.
  - Kevin is impressed that we're including students in the making of the news. Kevin also shared he's happy to hear that students are starting their day with the Pledge and learning good citizenship.
  - Justin shared that there might be an evening edition, possibly a biweekly edition.
    - The news is pre recorded on screencastify.
    - It would be shared on Class Dojo as well as other platforms.
  - Elaine shared that her children love hearing about the staff celebrations on the news. Her children love it when it's the teacher's birthdays. Consider adding exciting news events in teachers' lives (birthdays, babies, etc).

- Justin shared that he's looking forward to adding some student shout outs.
- Family Volunteer started today in the morning, at lunch, and in the library.
  - Ray is hoping to expand this program.
- Traffic Check in:
  - Officer Trent returned on Monday & Ray talked to him about the traffic flow in the morning.
  - Ray presented concern about double & triple park.
  - Ray is hoping to sit down & talk through the traffic plan for the circle as well as on Wescott St. where the buses drop off.
  - Trent has been invited to our meetings & Ray is hoping he'll attend in March.
  - Kevin shared that he has seen near misses.
  - Traffic control will be visiting Linden on 2/10/22.
  - Heather asked if a rolling, live drop off was an option.
  - Kevin asked if parents could volunteer to help in the morning?
  - Karen expressed concern about the afternoon specifically.
  - Rachel shared that as a walker she finds both morning and afternoon are dangerous.
    - Rachel also shared that the upgrades on the walking path have significantly improved the walking experience & safety. She suggested some clear markings in the circle.
  - Ray will share this information and look into meeting with Trent during the month, not waiting for the next LSA SSC meeting.
- Karen raised concern about how the mask mandate will affect the morale of the school. She believes if the mandate is lifted, students will then follow their parents' guidelines. Karen shared that she's concerned that in middle school students will find it difficult to wear masks if the mandate is lifted.
  - Ray shared that he found students at Linden and at the high school were wearing masks pre-pandemic.
  - Ray thinks it's our responsibility as a school that we will respect each other's decisions.
  - Ray anticipates that he'll be talking with the Superintendent soon and that the School Committee will vote on this soon.
  - Karen's primary concern is bullying about mask wearing and not wearing.
  - Kevin suggested mask wearing & being respectful as a Tiger shout out.
- Ray will send out a Google document to the team members as a place to add some agenda items for future LSA SSC meetings.
  - Ray shared that the Superintendent & Assistant Superintendent will attend to share a presentation in March or April.
  - Ray & Elaine will meet to prioritize agenda items.

## VII. Adjournment

- Kevin motioned to adjourn.
- Rachel seconded the motion.
- Next meeting will be the 2nd Wednesday of March: 3/9/22.
  - Proposed in person meeting.
  - Hybrid model proposed to accommodate all participants in March.