

January 7, 2019

To: LCS School Committee
From: Paul Russo
Re: Principal's Report

1. Facilities/Maintenance:

- a. Controls System: We are almost finished with the commissioning. The remaining work primarily consists of verification that the deficiencies have been corrected by XL Automation.
- b. Through the commissioning we have discovered 13 more T-stats that are reading temperatures that are out of range and should be replaced. It will be about \$480 to replace all 13 of them.
- c. We are working on trying to source the heat recovery wheel motors. Three of the four motors have failed. The result is that the cold air coming into the building is not being preheated by the exhaust air. This makes the system significantly less energy efficient. Mitch received 2 quotes sourced from a US distributor and the parts were over \$3,000 each. He sent new contact info to Mechanical Services for a distributor in Sweden so hopefully they can get a better price worked out. The motors from Sweden are listed at about \$700.00 each. There are issues with importing that will need to be worked out.
- d. Drinking water: The H2O filling stations were installed during holiday break.
- e. Generator: Back on line
- f. Sign Update: Our sign is still not here.

2. Staffing Changes: (With the departure of Mrs. Russo, our former sixth grade language arts and grades 3-8 GT teacher, we have made some necessary changes to be sure we meet the needs of our students.)

- a. Our new sixth grade LA teacher is Dawn Emery of Camden. Ms. Emery is not a new face to LCS as she spent a good deal of time in the sixth grade language arts classroom last year, and was assigned to our second grade from September through December of this school year as part of her teacher training program with the University of Maine. She completed the program in December.
- b. Caroline Moore, who is already teaching grade 5 math and grades 3-5 RTI math, has been assigned the Geometry class. This will move her to a half time teaching contract.
- c. Sarah Michaud, our grade 7 and 8 LA teacher will take on the 5th grade LA section that was also formerly assigned to Mrs. Russo.
- d. We are looking into ways to continue with some of the enrichment programming. I will cover the 8th grade enrichment reading group and will meet with 9 students once per week in a book club format.
- e. Our schedule has been adjusted to help better facilitate the changes. We appreciate all of the support from our staff that helped make this happen on fairly short notice.

3. Wellness:

- a. Our staff discussed the idea of dramatically reducing the amount of food coming into the school. Many teachers set classroom limits already, but we have not had a meaningful discussion at the school level for some time on the topic. With the prevalence of allergies, the threat of norovirus and other potential foodborne illnesses, many schools now completely ban homemade foods from all school classrooms and activities. Some allow classroom parties only on designated holidays such as Christmas and Valentines Day. As a staff we decided to generate a survey to see just how much outside food is making it's way into classrooms, to have staff members do some research on their own, and to return to our conversation at an upcoming staff meeting.