

# **LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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SUPERINTENDENT

April 25, 2013

To: School Committee

From: Becky McFall, Steve McKenna, Sharon Hobbs, Lateefah Franck

Re: Enrollment Proposal for 2013 – 2014

This memo serves to inform the Lincoln School Committee of 2013 – 2014 enrollment projections for the Lincoln School in order to recommend enrollment of Boston students through the METCO program and approve employee requests for enrollment of their children in the Lincoln School.

#### **METCO Enrollment**

There are seven (7) eighth grade METCO students graduating from the Lincoln School in 2013. To our knowledge, there are no METCO students leaving to attend exam schools in Boston or private schools. Our METCO enrollment dropped by one (1) student earlier this year. There is the potential that another student may be leaving the district. Our aim is to maintain an enrollment of 91 METCO students and to follow the policy of ensuring at least two (2) students per classroom. We have also set a priority on students entering the Lincoln School in the early grades to provide the greatest continuity of educational experience for students.

METCO Director, Lateefah Franck and her long-term substitute, David Fuller have gathered folders for potential students and information on these students has been reviewed by Stephanie Powers, Steve McKenna, Ginny Flaherty, and Sharon Hobbs. At this point, we are anticipating four kindergarten classrooms. We are proposing that nine (9) students be enrolled for the 2013 – 2014 school year. Eight students will be enrolled in kindergarten, two in each class. One (1) student will be enrolled in grade 1.

### **Enrollment of Employee's Children**

A copy of the recently revised and voted School Committee policy JFAB is attached. Students who enrolled prior to 2009 are grandfathered provided their parents remain eligible employees. Students enrolling in 2009 or after are approved on a year to year basis as long as their parents remain eligible employees and space is available. The district does not add sections to accommodate enrollment requests of eligible employees.

We have received requests for continued enrollment of eighteen students (2 pre 2009 and 16 post 2009). In addition, we have received requests for approval of eight (8) initial enrollments.

Requests for METCO and Children of Employee Enrollment							
Grade	2013 – 2014	2013 – 2014	Proposed	Employee	Projected	Preferred	Projected
	Projected	Projected	MĒTCO	Requested	2013 – 2014	Class Size	Average
	Sections	Enrollment <sup>1</sup>	Enrollment	Initial	Total		Class Size
				Enrollment			
K <sup>2</sup>	4	48	8	7	63	18/20	15.75
1	4	63 (2)	1		64	20/22	16
2	4	66 (5)			66	21/23	16.5
3	3	59			59	21/23	19.67
4	4	68 (4)			68	22/24	17
5	4	66 (2)			66	22/24	16.5
6	3	62 (1)		1	63	24	21
7	3	54 (1)			54	24	18
8	4	71 (1)			71	24	17.75

Based upon the enrollment projections and the recommendations of the Lincoln School Administrative Team, I recommend that the School Committee vote to approve the enrollment of 9 METCO students and all requests for enrollment of employee children for the 2013 – 2014 school year.

 $<sup>^1</sup>$  Includes currently enrolled employee children.  $^2$  Kindergarten projections include completed registrations and verbal confirmations of enrollment. ( ) Currently enrolled employee children

FILE: JFABC Page 1 of 1



# LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Lincoln, Massachusetts

# ADMISSION OF INTERDISTRICT TRANSFER STUDENTS (ENROLLMENT OF METCO STUDENTS)

It is the intent of the Lincoln School Committee to offer students the benefits of a multicultural educational experience by contracting through the Department of Education, under the provisions of Chapter 71, Sections 37C & 37D of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to bring a limited number of minority students from Boston to the Lincoln campus.

## Number of Students to be Enrolled

Every attempt will be made to enroll at least two METCO students per classroom. The district will enroll a total of 91 students based on the current grant allocation from the Massachusetts Department of Education. In the event that the grant allocation changes, the School Committee may adjust the total number of METCO students. When it is clear that space is available under the School Committee's class size policy, both for the present year and future years as projected, the Superintendent may recommend for School Committee approval that the number of METCO students may be increased up to four per classroom. Consideration for accepting additional students will also include available funds and the desirable educational benefit for all students. Determination of space availability will be made by the Superintendent acknowledging predictable patterns of growth or decline of Lincoln students in various grades.

### **Enrollment of Students**

First priority will be given to students enrolled in the district during the previous school year. Unless State, local or private funding is not available, children admitted to the Lincoln schools will continue through graduation from the eighth grade.

Second priority will be given to entering Kindergarten students.

Third priority will be given to new students in Grades 1 through 8 to maintain the commitment of two per classroom.

Fourth priority will be given to new students in Grades 1 through 8 to achieve the number of up to four per classroom under the conditions described above. Enrollment recommendations by the Superintendent under this priority will be coordinated with recommendations made under policy JECB governing attendance of non-residents in Lincoln Schools.

Enrollment decisions will be made jointly by the METCO Director, the School Principal and the Director of Special Education.

If the Individual Education Plan (IEP) of a non-resident METCO student recommends placement in a program outside of the Lincoln Public Schools, the placement and funding remain the responsibility of the Boston Public Schools.

FILE: JFABC Page 2 of 2

# Replacement of Students

If students enrolled in Grades K through 8 transfer out of the district during the school year, an equal number of students may be admitted at the start of the following school year if space is available.

# Necessity for School Committee Approval

Prior School Committee approval is always required for students entering at all grades

Approved at School Committee Meeting of May 11, 1981 Revised at School Committee Meeting of June 16, 1986 Revised at School Committee Meeting of January 28, 1991 Revised at School Committee Meeting of September 21, 1992 Revised at School Committee Meeting of May 6, 2004

FILE: JFAB Page 1 of 2



# LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Lincoln, Massachusetts

#### ADMISSION OF NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS

## Children of Employees

The Lincoln Public Schools provide a quality education to all of its students. It is a sign of confidence and support for our programs if non-resident employees of the Schools and the Town wish to enroll their children in our schools. The Lincoln School Committee wishes to show its appreciation of such employees by extending enrollment to their children on a space available basis. In addition, the Committee wishes to extend such privileges on a reciprocal basis to employees of the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School. This policy is also governed by MGL, c 76, § 12.

Therefore, dependent children of employees of: 1) the Lincoln Public Schools, 2) the Town of Lincoln, and 3) Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, may attend the Lincoln School or the tuition based Preschool on the Lincoln Campus upon approval of the Lincoln School Committee based on the following guidelines:

## **Eligibility Requirements**

For the purposes of this policy, eligible "employees" are full-time or regularly scheduled part-time employees working 25 (twenty-five) or more hours per week.

- A. A student whose parent leaves the employ of his/her qualified employer will no longer be eligible to be educated in the Lincoln School or Preschool. If the parent leaves the employ before March 15, the student must transfer out of district. If the parent leaves the employ after March 15, the students may continue to attend the Lincoln Public School or Preschool for the remainder of the school year.
- B. Eligibility is dependent upon the ability of the Lincoln Public Schools' to meet the educational needs of the child(ren) within the normal academic program and student support services.

### Criteria for Enrollment

In consideration of both cost and space constraints, the School Committee reserves the right to limit the total number of employees' children to ensure the quality of education delivered to all the District's students.

Space availability will be determined by the actual enrollment in any grade or program at the time an employee requests to enroll their child in the Lincoln School or Preschool. The number of seats available will be established by the School Committee's Class-size Policy.

A. Eligible dependents that, by their enrollment, would cause a given grade to exceed its target class size will be denied admission unless recommended by the Superintendent and approved by vote of the School Committee.

- B. First priority will be given to children of the members of the Lincoln Teachers Association. Remaining seats will be allocated to the children of employees of the Lincoln Public Schools, employees of the Town of Lincoln, and employees of the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School. If such requests exceed the number of available seats the remaining seats will be allotted based on a lottery of all eligible families in a given grade level.
- C. Once admitted, enrollment in the Lincoln School or Preschool will continue so long as the employee continues to meet all Eligibility Requirements and Criteria for Enrollment; however, if a student leaves the district, he/she will be subject to re-admission on the same basis as all other new applicants.

# **Enrollment Procedure**

- A. Non-resident employees desiring to enroll a child(ren) in the Lincoln School or Preschool will submit a written request to the Superintendent of Schools. Requests for admission should be made by April 1 of the school year preceding the September in which enrollment is desired. The Superintendent may waive this date under extenuating circumstances.
- B. Based on the Criteria for Enrollment the Superintendent will recommend to the School Committee admission of eligible children.
- C. The School Committee will communicate its decision regarding enrollment by June 30, except under extenuating circumstances.
- D. The non-resident employee will be responsible for the transportation of his/her child(ren) to and from School.