



LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MICHAEL F. BRANDMEYER
SUPERINTENDENT

January 3, 2011

To: School Committee
From: Mickey Brandmeyer
Re: FY12 Budget Gap

The Administrative Team presented the FY12 Preliminary Budget on November 18th and December 2nd. Currently there is a gap between the funds requested and the Finance Committee's recommendation for school operations. The budget scenario for FY12 is complicated by two factors: declining enrollment in grades 6-8 at the Lincoln School and the projected METCO funding shortfall.

It is projected that the METCO grant may be reduced between 5% and 15% from FY10 levels, which would result in a funding shortfall of between \$50,000 and \$90,000 for the Lincoln budget. After several discussions, I am combining both the budget gap and funding shortfall into one issue as reflected on the attached summary page. Using the midrange METCO funding reduction of \$70,000 and the Finance Committee's funding recommendation the overall budget gap for FY12 is \$326,033.

I have had a series of meetings with various groups to discuss the budget situation and to solicit feedback. I have met with the Lincoln 6-8 faculty (two meetings), METCO Parents (1 meeting with parent leaders and 1 meeting with all parents) and the Lincoln PTA.

Dr. Hobbs addressed the challenge of declining enrollment at the December 16th School Committee meeting and is preparing a recommendation for adjustments to the middle school schedule that will maintain the core components of the team model and take advantage of this as an opportunity to make appropriate adjustments to the enrichment program while maintaining recently gained instructional time in core academic subjects. Her memo outlining these adjustments is enclosed and she will join us at the meeting to discuss these recommendations and answer questions

On December 16th, I presented an initial series of recommended reductions for FY12 in the amount of \$97,448 reducing the gap to \$165,230. The following page includes further adjustments to reduce the budget gap to \$63,355, if all of the recommendations are accepted.

This series of reductions is the result of new information (CASE assessment for transportation), budget adjustments, and the application of federal jobs funds that can be carried forward to FY12. We have recently restructured the FY11 budget to allow the district to apply the Federal EdJobs funds (\$53,055) and the last of the ARRA Federal Stimulus funds (\$3,837) to the FY12 operating budget. This latest adjustment serves to reduce the gap without impacting operations or program budgets.

Next week I will be meeting with METCO parents again to gather additional feedback and ideas about aspects of the program they believe are necessary and most important. Following that meeting, as well as the next session of negotiations with the LTA, we will be in a better position to fully understand the impact of the final reduction of \$63,355 in next year's budget. I will plan to bring final recommendations for your consideration at the January 20th meeting and will request that you vote to accept proposed reductions and meet the Finance Committee's guideline for the FY12 budget. What will remain is a final figure on grant funding from the State, particularly the level of funding for the METCO program. Depending on these allocations we may need to consider further program adjustments in the spring after the Annual Town Meeting.

FY12 Budget -- Gap Closing Recommendations
as of January 3, 2011

Lincoln Campus

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Preliminary Budget Proposal | \$ 9,731,138 |
| Projected METCO grant reduction (midpoint \$50 - 90K) | \$ 70,000 |
| Total | \$ 9,801,138 |
| Finance Committee Allocation | \$ 9,475,105 |
| Preliminary Appropriated Budget Gap | \$ 326,033 |
| Proposed Reductions -- Appropriated Budget | \$ 262,678 |
| Revised Budget Gap | \$ 63,355 |

| Appropriated Budget Item | Original Request | Proposed Reduction | Remaining Request |
|--|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Improvement Initiatives | | | |
| Computer Upgrade | 1,653 | 1,653 | - |
| Aspen X2 Customization | 3,300 | | 3,300 |
| Aspen X2 Webex Subscription | 660 | | 660 |
| ECove Observation Software and iPads | 1,200 | 1,200 | - |
| Behavioral Consultation to Build District-wide Capacity | 9,600 | | 9,600 |
| Professional Development and Curriculum: Anti-Bullying | 3,000 | | 3,000 |
| Restore Night Custodian | 22,905 | 22,905 | - |
| Restore Summer Custodian for Lincoln Buildings | 4,050 | | 4,050 |
| Professional Development: Standards-based Classroom Assessment | 7,600 | 7,600 | - |
| Elementary Mathematics: Content Expertise Development | 5,470 | 5,470 | - |
| Standards Based Report Card Development | 3,825 | | 3,825 |
| FLES Program Development | 1,962 | | 1,962 |
| National Core Standards Alignment | 1,584 | | 1,584 |
| Funds to support Lincoln's Race to the Top Plan | 5,000 | | 5,000 |
| Facilities Manager | 16,500 | 16,500 | - |
| Professional Development for the Preschool Team | 1,420 | 1,420 | - |
| K-4 Math Camp 2011 | 10,030 | | 10,030 |
| K-4 Achievement Camp K-2 | 13,230 | | 13,230 |
| K-4 Lexia | 31,315 | 20,000 | 11,315 |
| 5-8 Developmental Design for Middle School | 22,035 | | 22,035 |
| 5-8 Foreign Language Textbooks for grades 7 and 8 | 6,151 | | 6,151 |
| 5-8 Science Equipment | 7,700 | | 7,700 |
| Budget reductions | | | |
| Reduce Teachers on Assignment stipends | 11,000 | 2,200 | 8,800 |
| Reduce Legal (level fund) | 15,000 | 1,250 | 13,750 |
| Reduce Long-term substitutes | 50,000 | 10,000 | 40,000 |
| Reduce VHS fee | 6,000 | 3,500 | 2,500 |
| Revised CASE Special Ed transportation fee | 122,700 | 3,750 | 118,950 |
| Apply EdJobs grant funds | - | 53,055 | |
| Apply ARRA grant funds | - | 3,837 | |
| Lincoln School 5-8 personnel adjustments | 1,839,378 | 108,338 | 1,731,040 |
| Total Appropriated Budget Reductions | | 262,678 | |