

WHAT IS THE LINK Mission?

The LINK or "Longmeadow Information Network for Kids" mission is to work toward improving and strengthening communication about school issues among the Town of Longmeadow elected and appointed representatives, School Committee, the PTO/PAC leadership and the entire Longmeadow community.

**Volume VI, Issue No. 3
November/December 2005**

*This issue covers School Committee Meetings:
Nov. 14, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, and Dec. 19, 2005*

THE LINK LETTER

The Longmeadow Information Network for Kids

Upcoming Events

- **School Committee** is holding a **PUBLIC FORUM** on **Tues. Jan. 17 th 2006 at 6 pm** to discuss the **FY07 BUDGET**. It will be held in the School Committee room at LHS. All are invited to attend.
- There will be a **PUBLIC FORUM** held at **6:30 p.m.** before the regular scheduled School Committee Meeting on **January 23, 2006** in the School Committee Room, 127 Grassy Gutter Road to solicit public input on the **LONGMEADOW HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT**.
- **Regular School Committee Upcoming Meetings: 7pm Longmeadow High School Committee Room**
Monday, January 23, 2006 Monday, February 13, 2006 Monday, February 27, 2006

For more information on any of these topics, please visit the Longmeadow Public Schools website at <http://www.longmeadow.k12.ma.us>. If you would like to subscribe to the List Serve for notification of updates, please visit <http://www.longmeadow.k12.ma.us/mailman/listinfo/lpslistserve> and follow the directions to subscribe.

FY07 Budget Process

The FY07 budget process is well underway. The administration submitted a LEVEL SERVICE and a needs-based budget for the Dec. 12 school committee meeting. A joint meeting was held on Dec. 19th with the School Committee/Select Board and Finance Committee to discuss town-wide priorities and budget projections. The school committee's Finance Subcommittee discussed their budget recommendations at the Jan. 9 meeting. Follow the budget process by visiting the BUDGET PAGE on the LPS website at <http://www.longmeadow.k12.ma.us/dist/>. A Public Forum to gain town-wide input has been set up for January 17th, 2006.

Longmeadow School Subcommittee Updates

Curriculum Improvement Assessment Group – The policy INB – Controversial Issues, upon recommendation from the Curriculum Instruction Assessment Group was unanimously approved as presented.

Finance Sub-Committee - The sub-committee meets weekly. The Strategic Plan was used to originate the budget process.

LPVEC – Ms. Vogel is scheduled to attend the next Board of Governors meeting to represent School Committee.

Facilities Improvement Committee - The Committee has scheduled 2 public forums to get community input on the Longmeadow High School project on Jan. 23rd and Feb. 13, 2006, starting at 6:30 p.m. (before the school committee meetings). The Committee asked that the High School Environmental Club come to the February 13, 2006 meeting to give a presentation on "green schools". The Committee is holding LHS facility tours on Sat. Feb. 11, 2006.

FOCUS ON YOUR SCHOOLS - LCTV Presentations

Starting Wednesday, Dec. 7, LCTV began airing "Focus on Your Schools," a presentation to air regularly with Dr. AndersEn, Superintendent. The first program introduced the School Committee's Finance Subcommittee and hosted Peter Greenberg, the LEEF President, to update the community on their recent fundraising efforts. The next "Focus on Your School" presentation features the Curriculum Improvement Assessment Group (CIA). Watch for the upcoming date.

Lunch Monitor Program

The School Committee voted to reinstate the lunch monitor program as presently budgeted through the remaining fiscal year.

Acceptance of Gifts

The School Committee accepts with genuine appreciation the donation of \$6,130 from the Williams School Activity Fund's annual magazine drive to fund Extra Curricular Activities for 2006.

Employment Opportunities

Longmeadow Schools has immediate openings for a Director of Pupil Services and a Director of Food Services. Searches are underway to fill these positions. Please visit the LPS website and click on Employment Opportunities for further information.

Parent Guides for K-5 Report Cards

To help parents understand the new standards-based report cards, parent guides for each grade can be found on the home page of the LPS website at <http://www.longmeadow.k12.ma.us/dist/>

F07 Capital Plan Moving Forward

The FY07 Capital Plan was approved by the School Committee and forwarded to the town Capital Planning Committee. The plan identifies a list of prioritized capital projects being proposed. Visit the LPS website at <http://www.longmeadow.k12.ma.us/dist/> to view the Capital Plan.

Thank you to the following individuals who contributed to this issue of LINK: Williams Middle School Representative Ellen McKenna, Longmeadow High School Representative Diane Friedberg
LINK Editors: Maryellen Baker, Mary Brown, Laurie Cirillo, and Laura Katz; LINK Advisor: Jeanne Lachiusa

The information contained in this newsletter represents information gathered by LINK. Official minutes of the School Committee and Finance Subcommittee meetings are found on the town website www.longmeadow.org or the district site <http://www.longmeadow.k12.ma.us/dist/>