## Transition/Quote (L-Q-T-Q) Example

Before finalizing next year's school budget, Principal Stella Reeves will meet with parents on Thursday, April 4, to discuss her proposal to eliminate the nurse's position for next school year.

**LEAD** 

After long-time school nurse Ema Stilten died in a car accident in December, part-time teacher aide Betty Figgs has been covering Stilten's responsibilities. Impressed with Figgs' competence, Reeves proposed keeping Figgs to avoid hiring a new nurse. With the savings, Reeves wants to hire a new teacher — a move unanimously supported by teachers.

Additional info expands lead and provides first transition.

"We need all the help we can get reducing our numbers," English teacher Yvonne Guitierrez said. "These parents need to understand how tough it is to teach 31 kids in one class and grade 164 essays. The workload is too much."

DIRECT QUOTE

Because of teacher cuts over the past two years, the average class size is 29, up from 25 in 2010.

Transition

Linked

Linked

"I thought the parents would jump on board with this proposal," Reeves said. "It will decrease our class sizes and benefit students directly. "

DIRECT QUOTE

Linked

Parents aren't so keen on eliminating the school nurse, however. One group labeled the proposal "short-sighted and dangerous." Parent Raquel Simones said the school should not compromise student safety simply to give teachers fewer papers to grade.

**Transition** 

"I have a special needs child who is quite fragile," Simones said. "If he suffers a seizure at school, I want a certified nurse to help him."

DIRECT QUOTE

Linked

Junior GiGi Smith agrees that the school needs a full-time, certified nurse. Her brother, who will be a freshman next year, has a severe peanut allergy.

Transition

"A nurse is trained to deal with this medical condition," Smith said. "A teacher's aide isn't. I like Ms. Figgs, but she could panic. That would be very bad for my brother."

DIRECT QUOTE

Figgs said most of her job is routine -- distributing prescribed medicine to students and seeing a few students with headaches or stomach aches.

Transition

Linked

"When something major happens, we call parents or EMS," she said. "I only had to call EMS once this year when a student had a negative reaction to medicine he took at home."

DIRECT QUOTE

The school has not received a single complaint about Figgs since she took over in the nurse's office, Reeves said.

Transition

Linked

"She is very organized and handles all the issues professionally and efficiently," Reeves said. "Plus she agreed to additional training this summer. "

END WITH A KICKER QUOTE