

From: Mary Stephens <marytd@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 7:51 PM

To: Select Board

Subject: Concerns

I am an elected School Committee member, but I am writing to you now as a Sudbury resident and not on behalf of the School Committee.

As the select board is discussing the fall town meeting, I wanted you to be aware that you would not have the proper input of the SPS School Committee (SC), the largest cost center in Sudbury. The SC has yet to discuss or vote on whether or not to present any warrant articles for consideration for the fall town meeting.

After the select board's request on June 25th, the SC scheduled an extra meeting for 7/8 to discuss this topic. Yet, on July 2nd, the SC chair canceled the discussion because "SPS does not have any time-sensitive warrant articles that would necessitate a request for a Fall Town Meeting." However, this was not based on a discussion or vote with the entire committee on the multiple suggestions of warrant articles sent to the Superintendent and SC chair for consideration.

When asked to reconsider adding the discussion to the agenda, the SC Chair wrote, "The decision to remove the discussion was made after consultation with the Select Board liaison to SPS." As a community member, I am concerned about the apparent undue influence the select board liaison exerted over the newly appointed SC chair.

Based on the above, I would like to encourage the select board to have a robust discussion about the role of liaisons and their influence on business outside of their purview.

In addition, I would like to encourage the select board to reach out to the SC chair to request that they hold a public discussion with the entire school committee before the select board's proposed July 30th public hearing.

Thank you,
Mary Stephens
Sudbury resident