

**Sudbury Public Schools
Sudbury, Massachusetts
School Committee Regular Meeting
Wednesday June 22, 2011**

Present: Jeff Beeler, Chairman; Susan Iuliano, Vice Chairperson;
Dr. Rich Robison, Lisa Gutch, Ellen Winer Joachim

Also Present: Dr. John Brackett, Superintendent; Robert Milley, Assistant Superintendent; Mary Will, Director of Business and Finance; Dr. Robert Mealey, SEA; Dr. Anne Wilson, incoming Superintendent

Open Session

Jeff Beeler called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. The meeting was taped for public access broadcast.

5. Personnel and Staffing Update

Jeff Beeler introduced incoming Superintendent Dr. Anne Wilson, who in turn introduced Dr. Judith Malone-Neville. Dr. Malone-Neville will serve as interim Assistant Superintendent. Dr. Wilson outlined the breadth of experience Dr. Malone-Neville brings to Sudbury, spanning central office, high school, and K-8 administration.

Rich Robison asked Dr. Wilson to elaborate on her decision to hire an interim Assistant Superintendent and her selection of Dr. Malone-Neville to serve in this role. In response, Dr. Wilson outlined the District's recent candidate search efforts, which identified three finalists. Because of the significant number of administrative personnel transitions, Dr. Wilson concluded that a candidate with experience in interim/transitional roles, in addition to central office and Massachusetts education system experience, would best serve the District. Dr. Malone Neville has served in two such interim roles in the recent past: as an interim middle school Principal in Arlington and as an interim K-8 Principal in Brookline. The body of her career was spent in the Newton Public School District, from which she retired in 2006.

Dr. Wilson furthermore believes an interim hire will enable the District to attract a broader candidate pool when it advertises in the early part of the school year. Her plan is to advertise the position in October and schedule interviews before the winter break.

Dr. Robison asked Dr. Malone-Neville for her views on serving in a permanent vs. interim administrator capacity. Dr. Malone-Neville responded by describing her pursuits since her retirement as Assistant Superintendent in Newton. The opportunity in Arlington arose when a middle school Principal was terminated shortly before the start of the 2007-08 school year. There was a need to serve as a bridge between a relatively inexperienced central office administration and the middle school community of teachers, staff, and families. Dr. Malone-Neville served in this capacity for two years. Her one-year appointment in Brookline resulted from the unsuccessful candidate search to replace a retiring Principal. Dr. Malone-Neville described her role as involving stabilizing a school in flux while continuing to move forward with its initiatives so that a new leader is met with an intact school.

The Committee welcomed Dr. Malone-Neville and expressed its support for the decisions surrounding her hiring. Her appointment will begin on July 7.

Superintendent Brackett outlined other appointments in the District. Peter Fardig, who currently serves as the science CIT, has been appointed as a Curtis House Administrator. This opening resulted in a talented applicant pool that allowed the District to select another candidate when House Administrator Kelly Campbell announced her resignation. Elizabeth

Nolan Greer, currently an Assistant Principal at a middle school in Rhode Island, will serve in that capacity.

Laura Dayal, currently a teacher at Noyes, was appointed as the half-time Assistant Principal at Haynes. Ms. Dayal has a degree in education administration. Her strong background in math will complement Kim Swain's strengths in ELA.

The previously announced Loring Assistant Principal is Steve Wiltshire, who most recently served as a teacher in the Framingham Public Schools.

Assistant Superintendent Bob Milley reported that three very strong candidates are finalists for the shared METCO Director position. Two candidates are teachers at LS; the third is a university administrator with significant relevant experience. Two nights ago, the District hosted an open house in Boston to provide an opportunity for the community to meet and interview the candidates. The candidates will meet with LS staff, academic advisors, LS Superintendent/Principal Scott Carpenter, and Bob on Friday and a decision is expected next week.

Superintendent Brackett reported that the science and math CIT positions will be posted as interim positions. In addition, Bob Milley's roles as the ELA CIT and the Title I and ELL coordinator will have to be distributed among the staff.

8. Superintendent's Report

(a) Donations

VOTED: On a motion by Lisa Gutch, seconded by Susan Iuliano, to accept with thanks a donation of items as outlined totaling \$27,978.43 from the Haynes Organization of Parents to the Haynes School. The vote was 5–0 in favor.

Principal Kim Swain and HOP Co-chair Lisa Turkington also presented a proposal to purchase playground equipment. HOP is seeking the Committee's approval to proceed. The Committee felt that it needed more time to address potential liability, operational, and accessibility issues. If necessary, the Committee is amenable to meeting in July to discuss the proposal in greater depth.

VOTED: On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Ellen Joachim, to accept with thanks a donation of \$500 from the July 4 Road Race. The vote was 5–0 in favor.

VOTED: On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Rich Robison to accept with thanks 20 5-year-old computers from LS. The vote was 5–0 in favor.

Dr. Brackett acknowledged the two generous grants from The Sudbury Foundation: one for \$7,500 to update curriculum for the Bridges Intergenerational Program; and the other one for \$10,765 to purchase five automatic external defibrillators to be placed in each Sudbury Public School building.

1. FY11 Budget to Actual

Mary Will presented a budget overview through June 9, including her projections for year-end tallies. Extra funds will be carried over to allow for anticipated \$50K shortfall in circuit breaker funds. Maintenance has once again realized some energy savings; some funds will be distributed there. Two teachers and two administrators were hired, as well as a part-time administrator at Curtis, at a cost of \$312K. The carryover in education jobs money is \$120K. Some funds are available for minor improvements and space reconfiguration at the central office. It is anticipated that the District will return approximately \$5K to the Town.

2. Food Service Management Contract

Mary Will reported that contract negotiations with Chartwells are ongoing. Both the consultant and Mary Will are comfortable with the terms of the contract, which is expected to be ready this week.

VOTED: On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Lisa Gutch, to authorize Jeff Beeler to review and sign the one-year management contract with Chartwells. The vote was 4–0 in favor. Rich Robison abstained.

3. METCO Transportation Contract

Mary Will circulated the regular education transportation contract. For the first time, SPS, LS, and Lincoln are coordinating on the METCO bus contract through METCO, Inc. Three companies bid on the contract; the two that were not selected have challenged the outcome by filing a complaint with the Inspector General.

4. Shared Facilities Director

Not discussed.

6. School Committee Report

None.

7. Open Forum

No comments.

8. Superintendent's Report

(b) Recognitions

Dr. Brackett congratulated everyone for an outstanding year.

(c) Bill Schedule

A Bill Schedule was circulated.

(d) Personnel Actions

As outlined in the Personnel Packet.

9. Minutes

VOTED: On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Lisa Gutch, to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2011 Regular Session. The vote was 5–0 in favor.

10. Communications

None.

11. Members' Forum

Jeff Beeler expressed his appreciation for the privilege of having worked with Superintendent Brackett and Assistant Superintendent Bob Milley. He presented Bob Milley with a chair and reported that a farewell function for Dr. Brackett will be rescheduled for later in the summer.

Dr. Brackett expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve the community for the past eight years, noting his optimism for the direction of the District with Anne Wilson at the helm.

Sheila Cusolito expressed her appreciation for the opportunity of working with both John Brackett and Bob Milley. She asked also if middle school administrator assignments had been made.

Rich Robison expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve with the current administration, attributing his continued interest in part to that administration. Dr. Robison

also noted that he received the final draft of the teacher evaluation regulations, which will be voted on soon.

Lisa Gutch shared the letter sent in response one received from an eighth-grade student concerning food service and nutrition. She also reported meeting with a Sunny Hill preschool parent, who invited District representatives to visit with preschool parents. Ms. Gutch also noted what a privilege it has been to work with Dr. Brackett and Mr. Milley.

Anne Wilson stated how fortunate and honored she is to have had the opportunity to talk and work with John Brackett and Bob Milley, citing in particular, the time and thought they've given to this transition.

Susan Iuliano reported that the Finance Committee has outlined proposed lines of communication between the FinCom and other committees. Ms. Iuliano also expressed her good wishes to both Dr. Brackett and Mr. Milley.

Ellen Winer Joachim commented that as a Committee Member, she'd only overlapped with the administration during three meetings; however, she expressed appreciation for the wonderful experience that her children have had within the District.

Bob Milley thanked the Committee for the chair.

Bob Mealey thanked John Brackett and Bob Milley for serving hot dogs at the Softball Bonanza fundraiser, at which \$5,500 was raised, resulting in six scholarships.

12. Adjourn

VOTED: On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Ellen Joachim, to adjourn the Regular Session. The vote was 5–0 in favor. The time was 9:30 p.m.

Yes Jeff Beeler
Yes Susan Iuliano
Yes Rich Robison
Yes Lisa Gutch
Yes Ellen Joachim

Submitted by Sheila Cusolito, Recording Secretary