

**Sudbury Public Schools
Sudbury, Massachusetts
School Committee Regular Meeting
Wednesday February 6, 2013
Fairbank Senior Center**

Present: Dr. Rich Robison, Lisa Gutch, Ellen Winer Joachim, Lucie St. George

Also Present: Dr. Anne Wilson, Superintendent; Dr. Todd Curtis, Assistant Superintendent; Mary Will, Director of Business and Finance; Nicole Lamoureux, SEA

Open Session

Rich Robison called the Open Session to order at 7:32 p.m. The meeting was taped for public access broadcast.

1. Recognitions

Superintendent Wilson celebrated with Nixon students Jacob Leverone and Johnny Oblak, who wrote a book review that will be published in *Storyworks* in May. She noted that all of the classmates were excited for the two students, reflecting the wonderful classroom environment at the Nixon school.

2. Energy Services Company (ESCO) Overview (Jim Kelly)

Town Facilities Director Jim Kelly provided an overview of the ESCO project, which began approximately six years ago. The Metropolitan Area Planning Council, MAPC, of which Sudbury is a member, identified an ESCO and coordinated several member towns to explore options for creating efficiencies around energy matters.

Ameresco was procured through MAPC for a group of 13 communities. Last summer, the company surveyed all school and town buildings in a preliminary audit to identify opportunities for savings. Sudbury's Energy Committee distilled the approximately 100 measures down to 60. Ameresco has proposed to implement the measures at a cost of about \$1.5 Million. The company guarantees that savings over 13 years will cover all costs of borrowing. Mr. Kelly compared this with the immediate return if the Town implemented the measures itself.

The Committee had some questions about the mechanism of generating \$1.5 Million and the impact on the SPS budget. The Committee also asked about the 13-year term and the possibility that some technologies might become obsolete in that interim. Mr. Kelly will provide more information on the funding structure when it becomes available and will follow up with Ameresco regarding the recommended measures. He also noted that the Town and schools continue to make improvements while the Ameresco proposal is considered. An investment-grade audit will occur next month, after which Mr. Kelly will return to the Committee to report on findings.

Mr. Kelly also reported that the Town received a grant of \$12,500 from the Department of Energy Resources. Funds will be used to hire a consultant to assess and maximize our maintenance savings.

Mr. Kelly also provided an update on the Fairbank roof article and the Task Force, which met twice last week and will present to the Selectmen next Tuesday. The article submitted last year was resubmitted for this year's Warrant. The Task Force also requested that Selectmen submit an article relative to a master plan for the community center.

Mr. Kelly stated that the Task Force would be more comfortable with the roof replacement if there was some assurance that the building meets the needs of the community, which the master

plan would address. Mr. Kelly estimated that a decision about the building's viability will likely be available in the fall. Lisa Gutch commented that if the Town votes for the master plan, it isn't likely that the vote to replace the roof would also pass.

3. Sewer Project/Use of ECMS (Jody Kablack)

Craig Blake, Chairman of the Route 20 Sewer Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC), and Jody Kablack, Director of Planning and Community Development, provided an overview of the sewer project. Ms. Kablack reviewed efforts since the District gave permission in June 2010 to test the Curtis fields for leaching capacity. The results of the hydrogeologic testing of the Curtis field, which were obtained over the winter break in 2010, confirmed that the Curtis field is adequate to meet the projected daily flow of treated wastewater. Following last year's ballot failure, the CAC has been examining the causes of that failure, as well as design and construction costs of the original proposal. Additionally, the CAC is assessing the viability of alternatives, such as tapping into Malborough's wastewater treatment facility or that of the MWRA via Framingham. At this time, neither of those alternatives appears viable. Ms. Kablack hopes to bring the project back to Town Meeting 2014 to request design and construction funds. The CAC and Town are hoping to obtain District approval for the proposed plan prior to Town Meeting presentation.

Mr. Blake described the three components of a wastewater disposal system: a collection system, a treatment system, and a disposal system. The current plan calls for collection and treatment along Route 20, followed by disposal of disinfected water in a leaching field under the Curtis athletic fields. Mr. Blake outlined the process that led to identifying Curtis as a possible leaching site.

Three test pits at the Curtis site were assessed. The site was deemed adequate to accommodate an anticipated flow rate of 286K gallons per day. Some rubble from the previous school building will require removal. Treatment involves both removal of contaminants and disinfection. Mr. Blake described the water that would be pumped along Horse Pond Road to Curtis as 'essentially clean' and noted that no effect to groundwater or the nearby Town wells is expected. The proposed location of the leaching field does not interfere with the infields of the softball and baseball fields, or the Curtis septic system. No impact on water or air quality is expected. Ms. Kablack noted that the piping could be installed in a summer. The piping will be entirely underground; once installed, the playing fields will be restored.

Lisa Gutch asked how the safety of the wastewater is ensured. Mr. Blake stated that the Department of Environmental Protection will oversee safety and that monitoring would occur at the treatment site.

Ms. Kablack stated that consultants will provide additional fail-safe measures. Ellen Joachim asked if there are examples of other schools or playing fields that have such leaching fields. Ms. Kablack stated that there are many such examples.

In addition to working out a specific agreement with SPS, the Town must also consider the mechanism by which the system will be operated and maintained.

4. FY13 Budget to Actual

Director of Business and Finance Mary Will circulated the budget to actual report through February 1, 2013. She reported that the FinCom approved the transfer of funds from the health benefit line to operations. The report is otherwise similar to that presented in October. The upcoming security installation will be paid from the operating budget. The District continues to realize savings in utilities.

VOTED: On a motion by Lisa Gutch, seconded by Ellen Joachim, to approve the working budget as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

5. **Fy14 Budget Update**

Superintendent Wilson presented a budget she called the 'level staff plus' budget. The non-override budget previously approved was based on a revenue projection of \$37 Million. The 'level staff plus' budget takes that basis and adds staff, specifically, 1.00 FTE for each of three positions: an elementary math coach, a psychologist, and a middle school literacy teacher, and 3.15 FTE's for front office assistants.

This proposal represents a shortfall of \$213,352 over the non-override budget. The Superintendent would like to make a presentation of the 'level staff plus' budget to the FinCom tomorrow if approved by the Committee.

VOTED: On a motion by Ellen Joachim, seconded by Lucie St. George to approve the 'level staff plus' budget as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

6. **FY14 Calendar**

Superintendent Wilson presented the FY14 calendar, which was updated by the addition of ILAP days.

VOTED: On a motion by Lisa Gutch, seconded by Lucie St. George, to approve the FY14 calendar as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

7. **School Committee Policy Amendment Second Reading: Gender Identity**

VOTED: On a motion by Ellen Joachim, seconded by Lucie St. George, to approve the policy amendments to s. 3.3.2 and s. 8 as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

8. **School Committee Report**

In addition to reports made earlier in the session, Lisa Gutch reported that a Nixon roof project review meeting occurred last week. Topics included design, materials, and the preparation of the bid packet. A meeting is scheduled for March 13. Ms. Gutch offered to continue her work on the project following Town Meeting School Committee transitions.

9. **Open Forum**

No comment.

10. **Superintendent's Report**

(a) Security Update

Superintendent Wilson reported that the school building greeters are working out well. The bid for purchase and installation of cameras and buzzers opens tomorrow, with an anticipated installation date near the end of March. The administration continues to examine dismissal patterns at two schools. Communication with the Sudbury Police Department is ongoing.

Dr. Wilson also provided an overview of Governor Patrick's CORI reform bill, which will require new hires and volunteers to be fingerprinted, among other changes. Costs will be passed on to the employees and volunteers.

(b) Donations

VOTED: On a motion by Lisa Gutch, seconded by Ellen Joachim, to accept with thanks three desktop computers and four iPads from the Noonan family to the Nixon School. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

VOTED: On a motion by Ellen Joachim, seconded by Lisa Gutch, to accept with thanks an Apple MacBook Pro laptop from David Harari. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

(c) Bill Schedule

A Bill Schedule was presented.

(d) Personnel Actions

As presented in the Personnel Packet.

11. Minutes

VOTED: On a motion by Lisa Gutch, seconded by Ellen Joachim, to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2013 Regular Session. The vote was 4–0 in favor.

VOTED: On a motion by Lisa Gutch, seconded by Rich Robison, to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2013 Regular Session. The vote was 2–0 in favor; Ellen Joachim and Lucie St. George abstained.

12. Members' Forum

Assistant Superintendent Todd Curtis reported on the two recent ILAP days, which focused on the Common Core. Today's focus was on the math standards, with middle school teachers addressing the new algebra requirements and elementary teachers examining common assessments and unit design.

Lisa Gutch clarified that yesterday's meeting with the Committee's FinCom liaisons was also attended by Dr. Wilson and Mary Will. Ms. Gutch also announced that she does not plan to run for another term with the School Committee.

Chairman Rich Robison reported that the governor's proposed budget has been published. Increased spending in areas of critical need, including education, is specified in the proposal, as is enhanced tax revenue. The House budget comes out in March, followed by the Senate budget six weeks later, leading to a finalized budget in June.

Superintendent Anne Wilson stated that the importance of the governor's budget was discussed at the recent mid-winter meeting of superintendents.

Lucie St. George reported on her attendance at several meetings, including the 18th annual EDCO legislative forum, a Wellness Committee meeting, and a Sudbury SEPAC meeting.

13. Adjourn

VOTED: On a motion by Lisa Gutch, seconded by Ellen Joachim, to adjourn the Regular Session. The vote was 4–0 in favor. The time was 10:05 p.m.

Yes	Rich Robison
Yes	Lisa Gutch
Yes	Ellen Winer Joachim
Yes	Lucie St. George

Submitted by Sheila Cusolito