

Sudbury Public Schools

Sudbury, Massachusetts

School Committee Regular Meeting

Monday, February 26, 2001

Present: Bill Braun, Vice-Chairperson

Members: Karen Krone, Kathy Precourt, Stephenie Cook

Also Present: William J. Hurley, Superintendent, Patti Grenier, Assistant Superintendent, Paul Funk, Director of Business & Finance

Bill Braun called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Open Forum I

No comment.

I. School Committee Report

B. Update on Sudbury Public School Building Projects

Curtis — no update.

Noyes — library will be done by the end of the week.

A. Community Preservation Act

Sigrid Pickering outlined the details of the Community Preservation Act, which would preserve open space, include affordable housing, and preserve historic buildings. The Act would also support the

goals of the Town's Master Plan. She requested the Committee's support.

B. Bill Schedule

A bill schedule was presented.

I. Superintendent's Report

B. Introduction of new SPED Administrator

The Superintendent introduced Debbie Dixon as the new SPED Administrator. Debbie introduced herself and gave the Committee some information regarding her background and her ideas for transitioning to her new position in Sudbury. Her official start date is March 21, 2001.

A. Recognition

The Superintendent recognized, on behalf of Dr. Kevin Plodzik, Kieran Joshi for initiating the recycling program at Curtis.

B. Professional Development Days, 2001-2002

Patti Grenier reported that the professional development days for next year have been scheduled for August 30, January 21, and March 28. Based on her input and some feedback from the Committee, the following changes were made to the early release Wednesday schedule: change March 20 to March 27 (this will be the day before a professional day to allow more flexibility in scheduling professional development opportunities); change December 12 to November 7 (this will allow for all conference days to be held in November).

VOTED: On a motion by Stephenie Cook, seconded by Kathy Precourt, to accept the 2001-2002 calendar as amended. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

C. MCAS Report

Patti Grenier gave a presentation on MCAS results over the past three years.

Highlights

- Sudbury has been among the top performing districts in the State
- Performance has been fairly consistent
- We are Exceeding, Meeting or Approaching State improvement targets
- We are looking at ways to improve performance of all students

Actions

- Monitor Failing and Needs Improvement students
- Continue R & D Team efforts
- Create the Sudbury Institute and allow for grade level professional development
- Use curriculum specialists and mentor teachers more effectively

Trends

- 3 years of continual improvement in top 2 categories for 8th grade ELA and 4th grade Math and Science
- better performance on multiple choice than open ended questions
- students with disabilities perform higher than the State average
- disproportionate number of Boston students score in Needs Improvement category

The Committee thanked Patti for her efforts.

A. Budget Update — FY '02

The Superintendent reported that the Finance Committee had recently voted a "Level Effort Budget" which includes no additional personnel. The Committee also supported an override, of which the School's portion will be \$284,912.

Open Forum II

No comments.

I. Communications

As outlined in the Communications Packet.

II. Minutes

VOTED: On a motion by Karen Krone, seconded by Stephenie Cook, to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2001 Regular Session, and the January 8 and January 22, 2001 Executive Sessions as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

III. Personnel Action

As outlined in the Personnel Packet.

Members' Forum

Karen Krone reported that Marty Meahan will be hosting a meeting at the Concord Town Hall.

Kathy Precourt cannot attend the EDCO meeting on March 1.

Stephenie Cook reported that EDCO is sponsoring a meeting at the State House on March 6 regarding high stakes testing.

Karen Krone distributed an article regarding textbooks.

Bill Hurley distributed a notice on an MCAS Hearing on March 5. He also distributed the names of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee.

VOTED: On a motion by Karen Krone, seconded by Kathy Precourt, to adjourn the meeting.. The vote was 4-0 in favor.
The time was 10:05 p.m.

Yes Bill Braun

Yes Stephenie Cook

Yes Karen Krone

Yes Kathy Precourt

Submitted by Joanne Bleiler, Recording Secretary