

**Sudbury Public Schools
Sudbury, Massachusetts
School Committee Meeting
December 4, 2002**

Budget Hearing

Rich Robison called the Budget Hearing to order at 7:10 p.m. The Superintendent gave a brief overview of current budget issues, including the impact of a 0% budget, a 3% budget and a 5% budget.

Tad Mayer, Darvell Drive, asked if the town went to a 3% budget across the board, what would the needed override be. Paul Funk reported that it would be about \$2.3M.

Susan Richmond, Willis Road, stated that staff reductions with a 0% budget did not seem to be a big impact. The largest impact would be in expense reduction. Does the 0% budget include an increase in current contract negotiations? The Superintendent responded it did not, but it would cover contracted step increases.

Susan Post, Belcher Drive, how do you factor in increases in teacher salaries?. The Superintendent explained that a 0% budget allows us to meet our commitments for the personnel we currently have, absent any negotiated settlement. However step increases are included. It does not meet any increase in health insurance cost. A 0% budget will require an override. The existing contract would continue until a new contract is settled.

Ginny Freedmont, Maynard Road, stated that any upcoming retirees will base their retirement on their last 3 years' salary, so asking them to take less of a salary increase impacts them for more than one year.

Carol Zais, Old Coach Road, asked if an override would be needed for a 0% Budget? Yes, to cover the increase in healthcare costs.

Rebecca Goniwich, Firecut Lane, have you shopped insurance companies? Yes, the Town has.

Susan Post asked about student population growth. This year it is up about 2%. Projections for next year are about 2%.

Pat Armstrong, Marlboro Road, requested a clarification on the SPED personnel numbers. Debbie Dixson clarified the issue. Basically some potential reductions have been identified based on current needs.

Laurie Wishner, Fox Run, reported that 40 out of 50 states are in the same budget situation according to a recent Time Magazine article.

Carol Zais, Old Coach Road, what would the property tax increase be with an override? A graph supposedly is on the Town's website.

Susan Richmond, if an increase in 94-142 offsets are not received, what is the impact? About \$67,000 to the additional SPED requests. However, it is not known if Federal 94-142 funds will be reduced, level funded or increased.

VOTED: On a motion by Karen Krone, seconded by Jane Santinelli, to adjourn the Budget Hearing portion of the meeting. The vote was 4-0 in favor. The time was 8:10 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Present: Rich Robison, Chairperson, Karen Krone, Vice Chairperson

Members: Bill Braun, Jane Santinelli

Also Present: William J. Hurley, Superintendent, Patti Grenier, Assistant Superintendent,

Paul Funk, Director of Business & Finance, Debbie Dixson, SPED Administrator, John DeRusha, SEA

Rich Robison called the meeting to order at 8:25 p.m.

Open Forum I

No comments.

I. School Committee Report

A. Bill Schedule

A bill schedule was presented.

B. Edgerly School Leadership Award

VOTED: On a motion by Karen Krone, seconded by Jane Santinelli, to accept the \$10,000 Edgerly School Leadership Award presented to Noyes School. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

II. Superintendent's Report

A. Recognitions

None to report.

B. Franklin Public Schools Request for Membership in ACCEPT

Patti Grenier reported on Franklin's request for membership. In order to be accepted, every school committee that is a member of ACCEPT must vote to accept the Franklin Public Schools.

VOTED: On a motion by Bill Braun, seconded by Jane Santinelli, to accept the Franklin Public Schools for membership in the ACCEPT/Metro West Education Collaborative. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

C. Budget

The School Committee will vote on the Budget at their December 18, 2002 meeting. The three scenarios as reported tonight will be submitted to the Finance Committee.

D. MCAS Performance Ratings

Patti Grenier gave a presentation on the MCAS ratings, which are based on student performance and issued every two years. Districts must achieve "adequate yearly progress" towards having all students score Proficient by the year 2013-2014. Patti reviewed the improvement ratings of the four elementary schools and Curtis. All schools have made adequate yearly progress and all are rated Very High in English/Language Arts and High in Mathematics.

I. School Committee Report

C. Superintendent Search

Bill Braun updated the Committee on recent activity. 11 people were interviewed. 5 finalists will be presented to the School Committee. Bill Braun

commended the process and those involved.

Karen Krone distributed a suggested calendar for site visits. She recommended that the final interviews be the day of the site visit during the week of January 13.

Open Forum II

Tad Mayer suggested having both weeks where site visits could be scheduled either here in Sudbury or at the candidate's site. The difficulty would be the possibility of having final interviews before the visit to the candidate's site.

III. Communications

As outlined in the Communications Packet.

IV. Minutes

VOTED: On a motion by Bill Braun, seconded by Jane Santinelli, to accept the minutes of the November 20, 2002 Regular Session with the following change: page 2. **2003-2004 School Calendar**, add "The Committee was reminded that the only holidays reflected on the school calendar are those that effect school days." Also, in the vote add "as originally presented." The minutes of the November 20, 2002 Executive Session were accepted as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

V. Personnel Action

As outlined in the Personnel Packet.

Member's Forum

Karen Krone is preparing an article in response to a recent Town Crier article on projected enrollment.

Bill Hurley informed the Committee that the Town Employees' holiday party will be held Wednesday, December 11 from 12-3 at the Hosmer House. Please bring a nonperishable food item if attending.

Bill Hurley reported on a conversation with Pete Buxton, High School Soccer Coach, and Park and Recreation Director Mannon regarding the irrigation of the Curtis playing fields.

Bill Braun cannot attend the negotiations meeting on Monday. Jane Santinelli will confirm that she can attend on December 9 at 6:30 at Central Office.

VOTED: On a motion by Karen Krone, seconded by Bill Braun, to adjourn to Executive Session for purposes of Collective Bargaining and Negotiations, not to return to Open Session. The vote was 4-0 in favor. The time was 10:15 p.m.

Yes Bill Braun
Yes Jane Santinelli
Yes Rich Robison
Yes Karen Krone

Submitted by Joanne Bleiler, Recording Secretary