Sudbury Public Schools Sudbury, Massachusetts School Committee Regular Meeting Wednesday, November 3, 2004

Present: Jane Santinelli, Vice Chairperson

Members: Rich Robison, Susan Iuliano, Alexa Crowe

Also Present: Dr. John Brackett, Superintendent, Robert Milley, Assistant

Superintendent,

Mary Will, Director of Business & Finance, Debbie Dixson, SPED

Administrator, Mary Mahoney, SEA

Jane Santinelli called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Open Forum I

No comments.

I. School Committee Report

A. Bill Schedule

A bill schedule was presented.

B. Donations to Sudbury Public Schools

VOTED: On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Alexa Crowe, to accept the donation of scoreboards, backboards, and goals by Sudbury Youth Basketball; and a donation of \$940 from Starbucks Coffee Make Your Mark Volunteer Program, recognizing the volunteer efforts of Michelle McDonald, to be used for educational purposes for the Loring School. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

C. St. Anselm Property Task Force

Susan Iuliano presented an update on the St. Anselm Property Task Force. Susan asked for direction in response to concerns expressed at Task Force meetings that additional housing would impact enrollment at Loring. The School Committee, while not taking a specific position, appreciates the Town's willingness to consult with the Committee on land use and housing issues. The Committee remains committed to the education of all students throughout Sudbury.

II. Superintendent's Report

A. Recognition

No recognitions to report.

C. FY '06 Enrollment Projections

The Superintendent presented Enrollment Projections for next year. He noted projections for kindergarten and first grade are currently "soft" based on initial information from the ongoing demographic study and from private kindergarten centers that their enrollments have declined.

B. Middle School Theater Arts Proposal

The Superintendent commented that in an effort to increase opportunities for more students to participate in theater arts at the Middle School, a theater arts workshop is being proposed, along with a position of Advisor, Theater Arts Workshop. The Superintendent recommended approval of this position.

In addition, a Director for Theater Troupe needs to be hired because no teachers have applied for the position. This position will be funded by reallocating part of the existing funds (4 units) as well as funds supplemented by the newly created Friend of Drama organization. The mechanics of this funding will be further investigated.

VOTED: On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Alexa Crowe, to approve the creation of Advisor, Theater Arts Workshop for the 2004-05 school year and that the compensation be set at 6 units. The vote was 4-0 in favor

D. Initial FY '06 Budget Presentation

Mary Will presented the initial FY '06 Budget.

The Superintendent reported that the Metrics Project Committee has requested several pieces of information from the School Department. Susan Iuliano will investigate the request further and ask for clarification on some aspects of the request.

Open Forum II

No comments.

III. Communications

As outlined in the Communications Packet.

In addition, Jane Santinelli presented a letter from the SEA requesting a reconvening of the Joint Committee for Evaluation. The Superintendent explained that this was a collaborative decision to look at the evaluation process, see how it's working, and suggest changes if necessary.

VOTED: On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Alexa Crowe, to reopen a Joint Committee on Evaluation that would reconvene by 12/10/04, and authorize the Superintendent to appoint 4 members of the School Administration to participate in the process. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

Alexa Crowe presented a letter from Sudbury Little League requesting

information regarding a proposed baseball field at Nixon School. The Superintendent will investigate this project in more detail and report back to the Committee.

IV. Minutes

VOTED: On a motion by Rich Robison, seconded by Alexa Crowe, to accept the minutes of the October 20, 2004 Regular Session as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

V. <u>Personnel Action</u>

There was no Personnel Packet.

Member's Forum

John Brackett informed the Committee that the District may begin using Monster.com to advertise for open positions.

Debbie Dixson mentioned that she had a positive experience filling a position through Monster.com.

Bob Milley invited members to a SERF meeting on 11/8/04 at 7:30 in the Senior Center where Curriculum Specialists will be presenting units based on newly purchased nonfiction books.

Alexa Crowe informed the Committee that Dr. Brackett will be hosting the Hope Sudbury telethon on 11/15/04. She also reported that she recently attended the annual MASC meeting.

Rich Robison informed the committee that new activity is happening around the reauthorization of IDEA. He also reported on NIMAS (National Instruction Materials Accessibility Standards) which will require textbook companies to adopt standards of universal design. Rich also reported on a Boston model of analyzing MCAS scores and looking at areas including curriculum, instructional technologies and professional development in their effort to meet AYP.

VOTED: On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Alexa Crowe, to adjourn the meeting. The vote was 4-0 in favor. The time was 10:25 p.m.

Yes Jane Santinelli Yes Rich Robison Yes Alexa Crowe Yes Susan Iuliano

Submitted by Joanne Bleiler, Recording Secretary