

**Sudbury Public Schools  
Sudbury, Massachusetts  
School Committee Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, February 16, 2005**

**Present:** Bill Braun, Chairperson, Jane Santinelli, Vice Chairperson  
**Members:** Rich Robison, Susan Iuliano, Alexa Crowe  
**Also Present:** Dr. John Brackett, Superintendent, Robert Milley, Assistant Superintendent,  
Kate Gentile, SEA

Bill Braun called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

**Open Forum I**  
No comments.

**I. School Committee Report**

**A. Bill Schedule**

A bill schedule was presented.

**B. Update from Sen. Pam Resor & Rep. Susan Pope**

Pam Resor and Susan Pope were present to discuss current issues at the State level. Topics of concern to Sudbury are:

- guidelines for Senior Tax Relief
- Charter Schools
- Formulas for Local Aid
- Early Childhood Education
- Recruitment/retention/licensing for teachers
- bus laws

John Brackett thanked Pam and Susan for their efforts in Special Education funding. The Committee thanked them for their time and effort.

**II. Superintendent's Report**

**B. Sudbury Odyssey Trip**

Rita Bissonnette-Clark, Nixon Principal, was present to discuss the 4th Grade Sudbury Odyssey trip. Rita reported that the trip is continually reflected upon and improved. Some recent improvements include:

- Curriculum connections have been strengthened
- Parent involvement has been increased
- We now use a new facility and new venues
- Parent surveys are conducted each year
- Safety concerns continue to be addressed (ie food allergies)

- Changes in transportation have been made

Rita also reported that there continues to be strong support from the administrators and staff, and there is a strong alternative program for students who do not attend.

Issues that must continue to be emphasized are that scholarships are available and the trip is accessible to all students (including, ELL, Metco, and Special Education students).

**VOTED:** On a motion by Jane Santinelli, seconded by Alexa Crowe, to approve the 4th Grade Sudbury Odyssey trip. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

## **I. School Committee Report**

### **C. FY '06 Budget: Override and Non-Override**

The Superintendent presented both an Override (6.06%) and a Non-Override (1%) Budget. Information will be placed on the district web site. The Superintendent and Committee members will attend various upcoming Informational Meetings. Members should let Susan know if they cannot attend any of the meetings.

### ***New Item***

The School Committee meeting originally scheduled for March 9 will be changed to Monday, March 7 to accommodate the League of Women Voters Candidates' Night.

## **II. Superintendent's Report**

### **A. Recognition**

Bill Braun recognized Superintendent Brackett for his efforts in writing a letter of congratulations to Bill's daughter for joining a District Orchestra. Bill felt that the letter was very impressive and was a great way for the Superintendent to make connections within the community.

### **Open Forum II**

No comments.

## **III. Communications**

As outlined in the Communications Packet. Bill Braun presented a League of Women Voters request for the School Committee to nominate a teacher or student group who have made contributions to watershed protection. Dr. Brackett will follow up.

## **IV. Minutes**

**VOTED:** On a motion by Rich Robison, seconded by Susan Iuliano, to accept

the minutes of the February 2, 2005 Regular Session as presented. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

**VOTED:** On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Jane Santinelli, to accept the minutes of the February 2, 2005 Executive Session as amended. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

**V. Personnel Action**

As outlined in the Personnel Packet.

**Member's Forum**

Jane Santinelli received a notice on the annual EDCO Leadership Forums which will be held over the next four months. She will forward the dates to members.

Rich Robison reported that the recently proposed Special Education State Regulations were withdrawn. He also reported that the Annual Conference for the Federation for Children with Special Needs will be held on March 12 at the World Trade Center in Boston. More information can be found on their web site.

**VOTED:** On a motion by Alexa Crowe, seconded by Susan Iuliano, to adjourn the meeting. The time was 10:35 p.m. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

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

Submitted by Joanne Bleiler, Recording Secretary