Sudbury Public Schools Sudbury, Massachusetts School Committee Regular Meeting Wednesday, March 23, 2005

Present: Bill Braun, Chairperson

Members: Rich Robison, Susan Iuliano, Alexa Crowe (at 7:45 p.m.)

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

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

Administrator, Mary Mahoney, 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. Donation to Sudbury Public Schools

VOTED: On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Rich Robison, to accept the donation of two bicycles for the NECC Classroom by Elizabeth Shealy. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

C. CASE Collaborative - Program & Revised Agreement

Ed Orenstein, Executive Director of CASE Collaborative, was present to discuss the proposed changes to the CASE Agreement and provide a historical background of the program.

Debbie Dixson updated the Committee on how Sudbury utilizes the CASE program.

VOTED: On a motion by Alexa Crowe, seconded by Susan Iuliano, to accept the revised CASE Collaborative Agreement as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

D. Policy on SORI

Susan Iuliano provided background information and a draft of a Sex Offender Registry Information policy. The Committee requested additional information regarding the various levels of offenders. Susan will gather additional information for a future meeting.

E. Open Meeting Law - Executive Session Minutes

Dr. Brackett explained that a recent newspaper story on Open Meeting Law caused him to review the law as it relates to Sudbury's current practice. Current practice is that Executive Session minutes are approved in Open Session, which essentially releases them as public documents. A more common practice is to approve Executive Session minutes in the next Executive Session and a determination is made then if they should be released. The Committee agreed that at each Executive Session, a decision will be made if the minutes will be approved at the next Open Session or Executive Session.

II. Superintendent's Report

A. Recognitions

The Superintendent recognized Steve Lambert, Curtis Teacher, who is the recipient of the Mass. Software Council Education Foundation's '05 Above & Beyond Award as a Middle School Math

Teacher. Curtis gets a \$1,000 grant. The nomination was the first ever submitted by students on behalf of their teacher.

B. FY '05 Financial Report & Budget Projection

Mary Will updated the Committee on the budget projection through March 15, 2005 and requested approval of the Revised Working Budget.

VOTED: On a motion by Alexa Crowe, seconded by Susan Iuliano, to approve the Working Budget as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

C. ELL Update

Bob Milley updated the Committee on the ELL Program. The program began with 20 students and one teacher and was not a very effective program. Currently, an ELL Center is being operated at Haynes School where resources and staff are located. However, there are several other students throughout the district who chose to not participate in the Haynes program or are newly identified. These students are being serviced by a teacher who visits Curtis Middle School and the other elementary schools. Teacher training continues to be an issue and professional development opportunities will be offered. The Superintendent commended Bob Milley, the ELL teachers, and classroom teachers with ELL students for their efforts in making this program successful.

D. Town Meeting Presentation

The Committee discussed the upcoming Town Meeting presentation. The Committee will meet at 6:30 on Monday, April 4, 2005 at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School in either Room 302 or 303.

E. Correspondence from Hudson Public Schools

The Superintendent received a letter regarding a legal challenge to the AMSA Charter School. The Superintendent, Bill Braun and Alexa Crowe will attend a meeting on March 31 to learn more about this issue.

Open Forum II

No comments.

III. Communications

As outlined in the Communications Packet. Bill Braun reported that the L-S School Committee has voted Friday, December 23 as a vacation day. This will be considered when the 2005-2006 Sudbury Public Schools Calendar is discussed.

IV. Minutes

VOTED: On a motion by Rich Robison, seconded by Susan Iuliano, to accept the minutes of the March 7, 2005 Regular Session as amended. The vote was 3-0 in favor (ALexa Crowe abstained).

V. Personnel Action

As outlined in the Personnel Packet. The number of staff members not returning from a Leave of Absence was noted. The Superintendent reported that his practice has been to not be in favor of a two-year leave of absence. A Recruiting Fair was recently attended at Lesley University and the fall hiring process has begun.

Member's Forum

Mary Mahoney commended Bill Braun and the Superintendent for their recent Budget presentation.

Rich Robison presented the Noyes School Council minutes regarding non-food birthday celebrations. He noted there is much inconsistency among the schools and he is concerned as to how it relates to

the food allergy policy currently being considered. The Superintendent reported that this issue will be focused on in the near future.

Rich questioned the time frame for the Superintendent's evaluation. They should be sent to Bill by April 15.

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 10:55 p.m.

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

Submitted by Joanne Bleiler, Recording Secretary