Sudbury Public Schools Sudbury, Massachusetts School Committee Regular Meeting Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Present: Susan Iuliano, Chairperson, Jane Santinelli, Vice Chairperson

Members: Rich Robison, Jeff Beeler

Also Present: Dr. John Brackett, Superintendent, Robert Milley, Assistant Superintendent, Debbie Dixson, SPED Administrator, Mary Will, Director of Business & Finance, Mary Mahoney, SEA

Susan Iuliano called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

1. Open Forum I

No comments.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

2. Bill Schedule

There was no bill schedule.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent recognized Rita Skog, Director of Food Services and Transportation, who worked over the summer to develop the new busing program. Rita has also worked to develop and implement new point of sale technology in the food services program.

3. Haynes Organization of Parents (Welcome)

The Superintendent introduced Haynes Organization of Parents (HOP) Co-Chairs Jill Emery and Lisa Gutch. Lisa gave a brief explanation of the role of HOP and its plans for the upcoming year.

4. State of the School Report – Haynes Elementary

Susan Carlson, Haynes Principal, and Kim Swain, Literacy Specialist, presented the Haynes School Improvement Plan, highlighting goals and initiatives for the upcoming year, including plans for ILAP days and new teacher leadership teams.

VOTED: On a motion by Jane Santinelli, seconded by Jeff Beeler, to approve the Haynes School Improvement Plan as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

5. Anti Bullying Update Report

Betsy Grams, Wellness Coordinator, reported on the progress of the Anti-Bullying Program.

6. Enrollment Report and Projections for FY09

The Superintendent presented initial enrollment figures for the FY09 school year, noting decreased enrollments across the district.

7. Open Forum II

JoEllen Smojla, Atkinson Lane, asked if there was any correlation to the reported enrollment figures and the Space & Growth Study done a few years ago. Dr. Brackett explained that there was some correlation but Kindergarten figures were stagnant in the Space & Growth Study. She also suggested publishing the School Committee agenda within the weekly principal newsletters. Dr. Brackett agreed, but responded that timing may be an issue. She asked if the Odyssey information will be disseminated at the Oct. 17 School Committee Meeting and why has there been no update posted on the website. Dr. Brackett explained that the process outlined previously is being followed. Information will be going out to the community in the next week regarding the upcoming presentation.

8. Communications

As outlined in the Communications Packet. Susan noted a letter from the Lincoln School Committee in support of the Metco Program. Susan will try to get more information regarding Lincoln's concerns.

9. Minutes – Regular Session, September 26, 2007

VOTED: On a motion by Jane Santinelli, seconded by Jeff Beeler, to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2007 Regular Session as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

10. Personnel Action

As outlined in the Personnel Packet.

11. Members Forum

Mary Will explained the new Point of Sale technology being used in the food services program.

Rich Robison noted that Channel 5 reported on the rising costs of special education and the impact on regular education with its headline "Is special education cheating regular education?" Rich also questioned the practice of clustering of special education students in certain classrooms and suggested having a more in depth conversation about this in the future. Dr. Brackett explained that in practice students are clustered based on need/service but spread across all classes.

Dr. Brackett reported that MCAS results are coming out this week.

12. Executive Session

VOTED: On a motion by Jane Santinelli, seconded by Jeff Beeler, to adjourn. The vote was 4-0 in favor. The time was 11:15 p.m.

Yes Rich Robison Yes Jane Santinelli Yes Susan Iuliano Yes Jeff Beeler

Submitted by Joanne Bleiler, Recording Secretary