

Sudbury Public Schools

Sudbury, Massachusetts

School Committee Regular Meeting

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Present: Susan Iuliano, Chairperson, Jane Santinelli, Vice Chairperson  
Members: Rich Robison, Bill Braun (@8:00)  
Also Present: Dr. John Brackett, Superintendent, Robert Milley, Assistant Superintendent, Debbie Dixon, SPED Administrator, Mary Will, Director of Business & Finance, David Jurewicz, SEA

Susan Iuliano called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Open Forum I

No comments.

School Committee Report

Bill Schedule

A bill schedule was presented.

Donations

VOTED: On a motion by Jane Santinelli, seconded by Rich Robison, to accept a donation of French materials from Jean Paul & RebeccaVallette. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

VOTED: On a motion by Jane Santinelli, seconded by Rich Robison, to accept a donation by Promethean, Inc. of an Active Board with stand and Active Votes. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

Appoint the Superintendent as Representative to the CASE Board of Directors

The Superintendent explained that as part of our involvement in CASE, a representative must be appointed to the Board of Directors.  
VOTED: On a motion by Rich Robison, seconded by Jane Santinelli, to appoint the Superintendent as Representative to the CASE Board of Directors.

Superintendent's Report

Recognition

The Superintendent recognized, on behalf of Joni Jay and Eula Walsh of Nixon School, the Nixon staff for their efforts in starting the school year in the absence of the Principal. The Superintendent also recognized Eula Walsh for her willingness and effort to help make the start of the school year a smooth one. In addition, the Superintendent recognized Lead Teachers Joanne Bleiler and Bobbi Benson, for their efforts in the absence of Joni Jay.

The Superintendent recognized Bob Mealey, Director of Music, who was recently highlighted in the Boston Globe regarding a new music initiative called Smart Music, which is being used in the middle school. He also recognized Music Teacher Nat Erde.

#### Approve Overnight Field Trip: Odyssey

The Superintendent thanked the following for their efforts: parent Robin Berman-Green, the Odyssey Planning Team (including members present at the meeting Kim Swain, Catie Carpenter, Carol Bradford, Kristin Moffat, Loring Asst. Principal Scott Bazydlo, Karen McCarthy, Rita Bissonnette-Clark, and Sandy Bell), and the Parent Advisory Committee.

The Superintendent introduced Rob Brockman, Director of Camp Bauercrest, who gave an overview of the camp. The Superintendent, along with Rita Bissonnette-Clark, Kim Swain, and Karen McCarthy, presented the plans for the 2008 Odyssey Trip.

#### Open Forum II

Ed Shoshua, Goodmans Hill Road, commented that he appreciates the time and effort that has gone into the planning of the trip. He questioned the diminished role of parents to babysitting at night. He asked who will be at Joppa Flats with students if not parents? The wildlife experience at Squam Lake was extensive and this site seems to be less so. Bringing the trip closer to Sudbury may be a negative in terms of the students' access to their parents. Students may not be as independent, etc. He feels that the physical challenges and the sites, etc. of the previous trip was a more meaningful experience for students. It seems that the impetus for change was a minority of students with issues. He doesn't believe that changing the entire trip for the benefit of a small number of people is appropriate. The Superintendent responded that parents cannot come to Joppa Flats due to the limited capacity of the site. Teachers will be present. He also commented that parents play a very important role at night, but in addition, parent chaperones will be trained as educators for the science programs.

Karol Hjerpe is hoping that all parents get the message to encourage their children to stay overnight. She doesn't think the idea of students emailing parents is a good one.

Sandy Bell commented that parents can be the biggest sellers of the trip.

Tricia Caltabiano, Old Lancaster Road, commented that her daughter speaks very highly of the trip. She worries that her son is not going to have the same wilderness experience of the previous trip but likes the ocean component. She is concerned about the lack of integration between the two schools that are on site at the same time. Kim Swain explained that there will be more opportunities for students to integrate.

Rob Brockman, Director of Bauercrest, commented that parents want to make a greater connection with their children, citing social awareness and increased technology as drivers of parent expectations around communication.

VOTED: On a motion by Bill Braun, seconded by Jane Santinelli, to approve the 2008 Odyssey Trip as presented (with minor changes to the program description). The vote was 4-0 in favor.

Approve French Trip! → Quebec This item was postponed.

#### Quarterly Financial Report

Mary Will presented the quarterly report.

#### Budget FY 09

The Superintendent updated the Committee on the recent Finance Committee Liaison Meeting. The Town is requesting a 0Level Staff0 and a 0No Override0 budget. The next meeting of the Liaison Committee is November 15 at 7:45 a.m.

#### 11. Communications

As outlined in the Communications Packet.

Minutes → Regular Session, October 3, 2007 VOTED: On a motion by Bill Braun, seconded by Jane Santinelli, to accept the minutes of the October 3, 2007 Regular Session as presented. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

#### Members Forum

Mary Will reported on a recent Capital Planning Committee meeting that highlighted deteriorating buildings in Town.

Rich Robison commented that a future discussion would be helpful on the use of clustering special education students and the team teaching model at the middle school.

#### Executive Session

VOTED: On a motion by Jane Santinelli, seconded by Rich Robison, to adjourn to Executive Session, for purposes of Collective Bargaining, to return to Open Session. The vote was 4-0 in favor. The time was 11:26 p.m.

VOTED: On a motion by Jane Santinelli, seconded by Bill Braun, to return to Open Session. The vote was 4-0 in favor. The time was 11:55 p.m.

VOTED: On a motion by Jane Santinelli, seconded by Bill Braun, to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the SEA for

1) Compensation for Teachers of Select Orchestra, Chorus and Jazz Band2) Compensation for Teachers of the Pilot Program in Mandarin at Curtis Middle School

3) Compensation for Teachers who volunteer and are assigned to be overnight chaperones for the annual 4th Grade Odyssey Trip. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

VOTED: On a motion by Rich Robison, seconded by Jane Santinelli, to adjourn the meeting. The vote was 4-0 in favor. The time was 12:02 a.m.

Yes Rich Robison

Yes Jane Santinelli

Yes Bill Braun

Yes Susan Iuliano

Submitted by Joanne Bleiler, Recording Secretary