

Sudbury Public Schools (SPS)
School Committee Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2017 @ 7:30 PM @ Sudbury Police Station

Open Session

Chair Lucie St. George opened the session at 7:38 PM. Sudbury Cable TV is broadcasting live.

Members Present: Lucie St. George (Chair), Ellen Winer Joachim (Vice Chair), Lisa Kouchakdjian, Richard Tinsley, Christine Hogan

Also Present: Anne Wilson, Superintendent of Schools; Kim Swain, Assistant Superintendent; Susan Rothermich, Manager of Business and Finance; Justin Dulak, Recording Secretary; Melissa Morabito, SEA President

I. FY18 Budget Planning (Including Loring Start Time)

- A. The School Committee met to discuss the Fiscal Year 2018 budget. The Committee discussed the state of the district's music program, the fiscal effects of extending the school day at Curtis Middle School, and the budgets under their consideration.
 1. During discussion, the Committee expressed a strong preference to preserve the elementary instrumental program in every version of its budget.
- B. FY18 Needs budget
 1. Business and Finance Manager Susan Rothermich reviewed the revised budget details with the Committee. Superintendent Anne Wilson then explained how the District's Goals will be impacted by positions included and excluded by the needs budget.
 2. **Ellen Winer Joachim** motioned to approve the Preliminary FY18 Needs Budget in the sum of \$44,528,554, **Richard Tinsley** seconded.
 - a) **Vote:4-1**, **Christine Hogan** in opposition. Motion carries.
- C. FY18 Town Manager Budget
 1. Dr. Wilson informed the Committee that this budget was developed in consultation with Town Manager Melissa Murphy Rodrigues, and recognizes that additional revenue may be available above the Finance Committee's recommended increase of 2.25%, but without an override.
 2. **Ellen Winer Joachim** motioned to approve the Town Manager Budget in the sum of \$42,503,321, **Richard Tinsley** seconded.
 - a) **Vote: 3-2**, **Christine Hogan** and **Lisa Kouchakdjian** in opposition. Motion carries.
 - (1) Ms. Hogan expressed her concern with the start time at Loring Elementary School due to lack of communication and rollout plan.
- D. Open Forum

1. Daniel Kreml, of 26 Chanticleer Road, spoke to the Committee about his desire to see the music program not just saved, but expanded upon.
2. Vladimir Pervanore, of 37 Eddy Street, spoke to the Committee about the IT program budget.
3. Brenda Shepherd, of 58 Lakewood Drive, spoke to the Committee about the value of music and the arts in education.
4. Maia Proujanksy Bell, of 38 Lakewood Drive, spoke to the Committee about the necessity of adding a new math curriculum to the district, as well as about the likelihood of an override being passed by the voters of Sudbury.
5. Silvia Nersessian, of 555 Dutton Road, spoke to the Committee about ensuring that Committee members have the necessary information to make responsible decisions about the budget.

E. Loring Start Time

1. The Committee discussed the start time change at Loring Elementary School, and the associated transportation cost savings that would result from it. Moving the start time at Loring would save the district \$324,000, and these savings are already reflected in each of the budgets proposed.
 - a) Sudbury Extended Day will accommodate this plan by shifting their hours.
 - b) The possibility of adjusting the start time at Curtis Middle School was also explored, but deemed to be cost prohibitive.
2. **Ellen Winer Joachim** motioned to adjust the start time of Loring Elementary School to 8:55 AM, **Richard Tinsley** seconded.
 - a) **Vote: 4-1**, Christine Hogan in opposition.
 - (1) Ms. Hogan expressed her discomfort with voting upon the Loring start time due to lack of communication and rollout plan.

F. Adjourn

1. **Ellen Winer Joachim** motioned to adjourn, **Lisa Kouchakdjian** seconded.
 - a) **Vote: 5-0**. Motion carries, meeting adjourned at 12:31 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Justin Dulak