

Sudbury School Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
February 10, 2020  
Ephraim Curtis Middle School  
22 Pratts Mill Road  
Sudbury, MA 01776

**Members Present:**

Lisa Kouchakdjian, Chair  
Silvia Nerssessian, Vice Chair  
Meredith Gerson  
Maggie Helon  
Christine Hogan

**Members Absent:**

**Also Present:**

Brad Crozier, Superintendent  
Don Sawyer, Director of Business and Finance  
Kim Swain, Assistant Superintendent  
Tracy Berry, SEA Representative

**Regular Session Meeting**

Chair Lisa Kouchakdjian opened the meeting at 7:01 PM.

1. Public Comment
  - a. Kay Bell spoke to the Committee about the town's Permanent Building Committee.
2. Educational Matters
  - a. Districts Reports
    - i. SEA Report
      1. SEA Representative Tracy Berry reported to the Committee on the importance of support staff across the District.
    - ii. Business and Finance Director's Report
      1. None
    - iii. Assistant Superintendent's Report
      1. Assistant Superintendent Kim Swain began her report by congratulating the elementary math coaches for receiving a SERF grant that will fund a Family Math Night event in March.
      2. Ms. Swain also reported to the Committee on the successes of the most recent joint LS-SPS ILAP day.

- iv. Superintendent's Report
    - 1. Superintendent Brad Crozier reported to the Committee on several topics: the recent Kick Off to K event; his meeting with the Finance Committee; work being done across the District in preparation for this coming fall's change in school start times; communications with the community regarding the flu and coronavirus; his upcoming meeting with the CIAC; and that a Homework Forum will be held on March 4 at Curtis Middle School.
3. Business and Policy Matters
- a. Permanent Building Committee Interviews
    - i. The Committee conducted interviews for the position of SPS Representative on the Town of Sudbury's Permanent Building Committee. Two candidates submitted applications and were interviewed for this position: Anuraj Shah and the incumbent, John Porter. The candidates were asked about their professional backgrounds; their experience with universal design; what, if any, experience they have working on projects with multiple users; how they manage disagreement and build toward consensus; and if they have undergone Community Access Monitor training from the Massachusetts Office of Disability.
    - ii. Following the conclusion of the interviews, the Committee discussed the strengths and weaknesses of each candidate, as well as the Committee's priorities for this position and which candidate best matched those. The Committee also discussed the possibility of having the School Committee's PBC representative give an annual presentation on projects occurring across Sudbury.
      - 1. Silvia Nerssessian motioned to appoint Anuraj Shah to be the School Committee's Appointee on the Permanent Building Committee, Maggie Helon seconded.
        - a. **VOTE: 4-1**, Maggie Helon opposed. Motion carries.
  - b. School Committee Mid-Year Goals Update
    - i. The Committee reviewed the progress it has made toward achieving the Smart Goals it set for itself at the outset of the 2019-2020 school year.
      - 1. On policy, Ms. Helon informed the Committee the policy subcommittee will soon be meeting to review new crossreferences and other information provided by MASC.
      - 2. Ms. Nerssessian informed the Committee that the select board has put forward one warrant article related to the new Fairbank Community Center. Ms. Nerssessian proceeded to review the individuals involved in developing and supporting the article, as well as the various meetings it will be presented at over the next several months prior to Town Meeting.

3. Regarding the equity goal, Ms. Swain informed the Committee that the draft equity statement is currently being vetted by a subcommittee.
- c. School Committee Professional Development
  - i. The Committee discussed what professional development it wants to engage in over the coming year, including at the annual summer retreat. Ideas mentioned included: reviewing the School Committee's responsibilities pertaining to budget and finance; issues at the state level; how to tie together the Committee's work at the end of the year (setting School Committee and Superintendent's goals, etc.); and supporting and incorporating administration efforts in the work of School Committee.
- d. Draft of School Committee Statement on Fairbank Community Center
  - i. The Committee reviewed and revised a draft letter from the Committee to Interim Town Manager Maryanne Bilodeau on the future of the Fairbank Community Center. During the discussion, Christine Hogan expressed a desire to see the "SPS All-in" cost be no more than \$3.5 million.
    1. Silvia Nersessian motioned to approve the School Committee letter in regards to SPS Administrative Office space, as amended, Meredith Gerson seconded.
      - a. **VOTE: 4-1**, Christine Hogan opposed (not visible on video). Motion carries.
- e. Future Agenda Items
  - i. School Committee self-assessment, draft handbook, tri-district meeting
- f. Liaison Reports
  - i. None
4. Executive Session
  - a. Christine Hogan motioned at 8:15 P.M. to move to Executive Session and not return, Silvia Nersessian seconded.
    - i. **VOTE: 5-0**. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Justin Dulak

**Documents Reviewed During the February 10, 2020 School Committee Meeting**

1. DESE Student Opportunity Act Memo
2. Resume for Anuraj D. Shah
3. Resume for John M. Porter, P.E.
4. Permanent Building Committee Interview Questions
5. Sudbury School Committee 2019-2020 Smart Goals
6. Draft Letter from SPS School Committee to Maryanne Bilodeau regard Sudbury Public Schools Administrative Office Space

