

Sudbury School Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2021
Virtual Meeting

Members Present:

Silvia Nerssessian, Chair
Meredith Gerson, Vice Chair
Maggie Helon
Lisa Kouchakdjian
Sarah Troiano

Members Absent:

None

Also Present:

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

Regular Session Meeting

Chair Silvia Nerssessian opened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

1. Opening Statement/Executive Session
 - a. Chair Silvia Nerssessian performed a roll call and made an announcement that the session is being recorded, shared live for the public to see and hear and there should be no expected right to privacy, as this is a public forum. Silvia Nerssessian, Meredith Gerson, Sarah Troiano, and Lisa Kouchakdjian all affirmed in the positive.
 - b. Meredith Gerson motioned to enter Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, specifically the Superintendent; and to discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for collective bargaining with the Sudbury Education Association, the Education Support Professionals Association, the Nurses' Union, and the Custodians' Union, because an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee; and to return to open session, Sarah Troiano seconded.
 - i. ROLL CALL VOTE
 1. Meredith Gerson: Aye

2. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
3. Sarah Troiano: Aye
4. Lisa Kouchakdjian: Aye

a. **VOTE: 4-0.** Motion carries.

c. Return from Executive Session

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssesian noted that the Committee returned from the Executive Session at 7:00 PM. Chair Silvia Nerssessian performed a roll call and made an announcement that the session is being recorded, shared live for the public to see and hear and there should be no expected right to privacy, as this is a public forum. All members affirmed in the positive.

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Educational Matters

a. District Reports

i. SEA Report

1. SEA Representative Sarah Rivera updated the Committee on how students are adjusting to being back in schools five days per week. Ms. Rivera also told the Committee about how the community has celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week.

ii. Business and Finance Director's Report

1. Business and Finance Director Don Sawyer provided an update on transportation issues the District has faced with the return to fully in-person learning. The Business Department is working through each problem being encountered, including working with First Student whenever necessary.
2. Mr. Sawyer also informed the Committee that transportation registration for the 2021-2022 school year will soon begin. Mr. Sawyer will update the Committee again as the process progresses.

iii. Assistant Superintendent's Report

1. Assistant Superintendent Kim Swain, in light of Teacher Appreciation Week, expressed her appreciation for all the teachers and staff members who work across the District.
2. Ms. Swain informed the Committee that she recently participated in the initial planning meeting for the 2022 8th Grade trip to Washington, D.C. This will be brought to the Committee for its approval once more details are finalized.
3. Ms. Swain detailed how new curriculum on the Southwest United States is being rolled out at the 3rd grade level.

iv. Superintendent's Report

1. SMILE Update

- a. Superintendent Brad Crozier updated the Committee on the state of planning for this summer's SMILE Program. While the funding has not yet been finalized, the District has begun inviting families to participate. The District is looking to the Town Meeting and potentially DESE for funding.
- b. Registration for the program is ongoing. At the moment, the program is fully staffed, but awaiting further participation commitments from families who were invited.

4. Business and Policy Matters

a. Superintendent's Annual Summative Report

- i. As part of the Superintendent Evaluation Process, the Committee reviewed the Superintendent's Annual Summative Report. This is a report generated by Superintendent Crozier on his and the District's work toward the goals set at the beginning of the year.
- ii. Questions and comments from the Committee focused on: what types of assessments are being used through Title I to adhere to the intervention supports being provided, specifically as it applies to mathematics at the elementary level; getting the Committee a list of the assessment tools and instructional subscriptions added to the FY22 budget; requesting additional information on the METCO Workshop; who facilitated the SALT group discussion on the book "White Fragility"; when the proposed equity audit may occur; that Superintendent Crozier and the District did an exceptional job opening school in September and reopening school in April; and ways Superintendent Crozier increased access to, and communications from, the District.
- iii. The next step in this process is for the Committee to discuss its evaluations of the Superintendent. This conversation will happen at the May 17, 2021, School Committee meeting.

b. Liaison Reports

- i. Sarah Troiano shared updates from SEPAC. The organization is busy updating its policies and bylaws, as well as connecting families who are still operating remotely. The next SEPAC Cafe will be on Thursday, May 13th, and will be held remotely. The next business meeting will be May 19th. SEPAC will have its board elections in June. Ms. Troiano also reported that the Equity Working Group will meet in the coming week.

c. Minutes

- i. The School Committee reviewed and revised minutes from the April 26, 2021 meeting.
 1. Meredith Gerson motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the April 26, 2021 meeting, as amended, Sarah Troiano seconded.

a. ROLL CALL VOTE

- i. Meredith Gerson: Aye
- ii. Maggie Helon: Aye
- iii. Lisa Kouchakdjian: Aye
- iv. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
- v. Sarah Troiano: Aye

1. **VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.

d. Adjournment

- i. Meredith Gerson motioned to adjourn at 8:26 PM, Lisa Kouchakdjian seconded.

1. ROLL CALL VOTE

- a. Meredith Gerson: Aye
- b. Maggie Helon: Aye
- c. Lisa Kouchakdjian: Aye
- d. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
- e. Sarah Troiano: Aye

i. **VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,
Justin Dulak

Documents Reviewed During the May 3, 2021 School Committee Meeting

- 1. Superintendent's Annual Summative Report, April 27, 2021
- 2. School Committee Meeting Minutes Draft, April 26, 2021