

Sudbury School Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 1, 2021  
Virtual Meeting

**Members Present:**

Silvia Nerssessian, Chair  
Meredith Gerson, Vice Chair  
Sarah Troiano  
Tyler Steffey  
Mandy Sim

**Members Absent:**

None

**Also Present:**

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

**Regular Session Meeting**

Chair Silvia Nerssessian opened the meeting at 6:02PM.

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, Tyler Steffey, and Mandy Sim all affirmed in the positive.
  - b. Meredith Gerson motioned to enter Executive Session 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 review and approve minutes from the School Committee Executive Session Meeting on September 27 and October 4, 2021; 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. Tyler Steffey: Aye
5. Mandy Sim: Aye

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

c. Return from Executive Session

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssesian noted that the Committee returned from the Executive Session at 7:32 PM. Chair Silvia Nerssesian 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. Special Matters

a. Capital Budget Projects

- i. Facilities Director Bill Barletta joined the meeting to present capital project proposals for the Committee's consideration. If approved, each project would next be submitted to the warrant for the Fall Town Meeting.
- ii. Committee questions focused on air quality and ventilation, the rationale for asset maintenance budget amount, budget sources, tracking asset preservation funds, options to fully remove sinks and add more classroom space in some rooms, safety compliance for door replacements, a timeline for the different warrants, discussions with the capital planning taskforce, recurring costs around in-classroom AC units,

1. Meredith Gerson motioned to approve CIP FY23 SPS-1: Paging, Clocks, and Bell Systems for \$25,000; to approve CIP FY23 SPS-2: Loring Dishwasher Replacement \$50,000; to approve CIP FY23 SPS-3: Noyes Classroom Sink Replacements for \$130,000; to approve CIP FY23 SPS-4: Schools Interior Painting for \$50,000; to approve CIP FY23 SPS-5: School Door Repairs and Replacements for \$50,000; to approve CIP FY23 SPS-6: Schools Ceiling Tile Replacements for \$45,000; to approve CIP FY23 SPS-7: Sand and Refinish All School Gymnasium Floors for \$80,000; to approve CIP FY23 SPS-8: Schools HVAC-Heating and Repairs and Replacements for \$455,000; to approve CIP FY23 SPS-9: Nixon and Noyes Refrigeration for \$50,000; and to approve School Building Maintenance and Asset Preservation for \$80,000, Sarah Troiano seconded.

**a. ROLL CALL VOTE**

- i. Meredith Gerson: Aye
- ii. Silvia Nerssesian: Aye
- iii. Sarah Troiano: Aye
- iv. Tyler Steffey: Aye
- v. Mandy Sim: Aye

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

### 3. Educational Matters

#### a. District Reports

##### i. SEA Report

1. SEA Representative Barbara Gogan spoke to the Committee about Native American Heritage Month and curriculum updates to better reflect indigenous authors and experiences.

##### ii. Business and Finance Director's Report

1. Business and Finance Director Don Sawyer updated the Committee on FY23 budget development, FY23 capital planning, DESE grants, and RFPs.

##### iii. Assistant Superintendent's Report

1. Assistant Superintendent Kim Swain informed the committee of an upcoming ILAP for educational support professionals. She also shared information about Curtis's Frozen Fundraiser. She noted that the deadline for SERF Student Grants was extended to 11/5. She also described an archeological dig simulation conducted for the fourthgrade. Committee questions revolved around partnerships between the Social Studies Steering Committee and the town's equity work and the SERF Student Grant process.

##### iv. Superintendent's Report

1. Superintendent Brad Crozier reported to the Committee on recent capital planning taskforce meeting, noting that the finance committee may attend the upcoming meeting. He described research done on past warrants (as far back as 2013) to find the amount of funds unspent from past warrants and each project's status. A goal for future projects is to more closely track spend and warrant status.
2. Superintendent Crozier discussed ARPA funds, project ideas, and submission timelines. He noted that the hope is to look at student needs in the longterm (i.e. summer program extended several years, specific SEL support positions, and nursing services support).
3. Superintendent Crozier discussed DESE updates, including mask mandate extensions and pediatric vaccines. He noted that he has been involved in discussions for a mobile vaccine clinic and hopes to set a date soon.
4. Committee questions included ARPA funding details and who the vaccine clinic would be open to.

### 4. Business and Policy Matters

#### a. NESDEC Enrollment Projections

- i. Superintendent Crozier discussed NESDEC Enrollment Projections, noting that the projections are more reliable as students age up, and K and 1 numbers tend to be more difficult to predict. Last year's projections

were off by 39 students in total. NESDEC projects a 21 student decrease for next year, with 13 of those students at Curtis. These numbers help to build sections and decide staffing levels for next year.

- ii. Committee questions focused on how projections work, homeschool numbers, and projections for next year and how new builds impact them.
- b. Grant Funding Approval
  - i. The Committee discussed the legalities and processes around approving grant funding. It was noted that this will streamline the process. Don Sawyer provided information on line item detail and how the funding and approval flows from DESE. He noted that the process would mirror the current private grant approval process.
  - ii. Meredith Gerson motioned to accept the FY22 state and federal grant funds for the FY22 fiscal year as presented, Sarah Troiano seconded.
    1. ROLL CALL VOTE
      - a. Meredith Gerson: Aye
      - b. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
      - c. Sarah Troiano: Aye
      - d. Tyler Steffey: Aye
      - e. Mandy Sim: Aye
    - i. **VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.
- c. Liaison Reports
  - i. Sarah Troiano provided an update on the Equity Working Group.
- d. Minutes
  - i. The School Committee reviewed and revised minutes from the October 18, 2021 meeting.
    1. Meredith Gerson motioned to approve the open session meeting minutes from the October 18, 2021 meeting as amended, Mandy Sim seconded.
      - a. ROLL CALL VOTE
        - i. Meredith Gerson: Aye
        - ii. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
        - iii. Sarah Troiano: Aye
        - iv. Tyler Steffey: Aye
        - v. Mandy Sim: Aye
      1. **VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.
- e. Adjournment
  - i. Meredith Gerson motioned to adjourn at 9:17 PM, Sarah Troiano seconded.
    1. ROLL CALL VOTE
      - a. Meredith Gerson: Aye
      - b. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
      - c. Sarah Troiano: Aye
      - d. Tyler Steffey: Aye

- e. Mandy Sim: Aye
  - i. **VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Justin Dulak

**Documents Reviewed During the November 1, 2021 School Committee Meeting**

1. CIP FY23 SPS-1: Paging Clocks and Bell Systems
2. CIP FY23 SPS-2: Loring Dishwasher Replacement
3. CIP FY23 SPS-3: Noyes Classroom Sink Replacements
4. CIP FY23 SPS-4: Schools Interior Painting
5. CIP FY23 SPS-5: Schools Door Replacements and Repairs
6. CIP FY23 SPS-6: Schools Ceiling Tile Replacements
7. CIP FY23 SPS-7: Sand and Refinish All Schools Gymnasium Floors
8. CIP FY23 SPS-8: Schools HVAC-Heating Repairs and Replacements
9. CIP FY23 SPS-9: Nixon and Noyes Refrigeration
10. NESDEC Sudbury Public Schools 2021-2022 Enrollment Projections Report
11. NESDEC Sudbury Public Schools 2021-2022 School-by-School Enrollment Projections Report
12. FY2022 State and Federal Grants Menu
13. Sudbury School Committee Meeting Minutes Draft, October 18, 2021