

Sudbury School Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2021
Virtual Meeting

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Sarah Troiano

Also Present:

Brad Crozier, Superintendent
Don Sawyer, Director of Business and Finance
Kim Swain, Assistant Superintendent

Special Session Meeting: BUDGET HEARING

Chair Silvia Nerssessian opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

1. Opening Statement
 - 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, and Tyler Steffey, all affirmed in the positive.
 - b. Meredith Gerson motioned to open the School Committee Public Hearing of the Sudbury Public Schools FY23 Budget, Tyler Steffey seconded.
 - i. ROLL CALL VOTE
 1. Meredith Gerson: Aye
 2. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
 3. Tyler Steffey: Aye
 - a. **VOTE: 3-0.** Motion carries.
2. Superintendent's FY23 Budget Presentation
 - a. Superintendent Brad Crozier led the Committee in a review of the Superintendent's Recommended Budget for FY23. The presentation covered some previously discussed information, including the budget development timeline, enrollment projections for the next several years, the FY23 elementary

school classroom section distributions, and items in the base budget. Specific dollar estimates were added to the base budget items.

- b. Superintendent Crozier reviewed Tier I budget initiatives. One change here from previous presentations of the budget is the inclusion of cost ranges for each position, as Superintendent Crozier noted the administration may decide to pursue filling a given position at less than 1.0 FTE.
- c. New to this edition of Superintendent Crozier's presentation was a list of ARPA requests submitted by Superintendent Crozier to the Town of Sudbury. These requests included funding for SEL supports at \$210,000 per year for two years; for summer programming at \$310,000 per year for four years; for additional nurse staffing at \$90,000 per year for four years; and for tiered general education supports at \$150,000 per year for two years.
- d. Major F23 Budget drivers include \$493,427 for contractual step and lane increases; to be determined COLA costs; and an anticipated 20% increase in transportation costs, valued at approximately \$200,000.
- e. On the other side of the ledger, Superintendent Crozier reviewed FY23 non-operating budget funding sources, including \$107,163 from Title I, II, and IV funding; \$280,000 in Circuit Breaker funding; \$17,549 from an early childhood grant; \$609,993 from the Grant SPED 240; and \$151,272 from Pre-K Revolving fund.
- f. Following the conclusion of Superintendent Crozier's presentation, the floor opened to questions from the Committee and community. These questions centered on seeking more information on the Tier II item "foreign language review," as well as an update on the ELA review; and whether the transportation budget increase is negotiable.
 - i. Mandy Sim joined the meeting during this discussion.
- g. Meredith Gerson motioned to close the School Committee Public Hearing of the Sudbury Public Schools FY23 Budget at 7:32 PM, Tyler Steffey seconded.
 - i. ROLL CALL VOTE
 - 1. Meredith Gerson: Aye
 - 2. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
 - 3. Tyler Steffey: Aye
 - 4. Mandy Sim: Aye

a. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

3. Public Comment

- a. None

4. School Committee Review of Superintendent's FY23 Recommended Budget

- a. The Committee continued its review of the Superintendent's Recommended Budget for FY23. Comments and questions from the Committee at this juncture focused on if and how additional revenue could be generated to fund some of the Tier I budget items; the capital plan discussion has been moved to a subsequent meeting; the importance of the potential ARPA-funded projects, particularly the summer programming; getting more information on what may be included in the Tier II universal classroom design budget item; the difference between a typical

extended school year program and the SMILE program; and the mental health work nurses perform on a day-to-day basis.

5. Adjournment

- a. Meredith Gerson motioned to adjourn at 8:16 PM, Mandy Sim seconded.

1. ROLL CALL VOTE

- a. Meredith Gerson: Aye
- b. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
- c. Tyler Steffey: Aye
- d. Mandy Sim: Aye
- i. **VOTE: 4-0.** Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,
Justin Dulak

Documents Reviewed During the December 16, 2021 School Committee Meeting

1. Superintendent's FY23 Budget Presentation