

Sudbury School Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
February 28, 2022  
Virtual Meeting

**Members Present:**

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

**Members Absent:**

None

**Also Present:**

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

**Regular Session Meeting**

Chair Silvia Nerssessionian opened the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

1. Opening Statement / Executive Session
  - a. Chair Silvia Nerssessionian 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. Meredith Gerson, Mandy Sim, Tyler Steffey, Sarah Troiano and Silvia Nerssessionian all affirmed in the positive.
  - b. Meredith Gerson motioned to enter Executive Session to discuss strategy with with respect to and in preparation for collective bargaining with 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 Sudbury School Committee Executive Session meeting of January 24, 2022. Mandy Sim seconded.
    - i. ROLL CALL VOTE
      1. Meredith Gerson: Aye
      2. Mandy Sim: Aye
      3. Tyler Steffey: Aye
      4. Silvia Nerssessionian: Aye
      - a. **VOTE: 4-0.** Motion carries.
      - b. Chair Silvia Nerssessionian recognized that Sarah Troiano has now joined the meeting.

c. Return from Executive Session

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssessian noted that the Committee returned from the Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. 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. Meredith Gerson, Mandy Sim, Tyler Steffey, Sarah Troiano and Silvia Nerssessian all affirmed in the positive.

2. Special Matters

a. ELA Program Review, Lauren Egizio, Humanities Director

- i. Lauren Egizio, Humanities Director, provided a review for the rationale for why the ELA program review is being conducted.
- ii. The Committee asked clarifying questions centered around:
  1. The strengths and weaknesses of the ELA program and how they are being addressed
  2. Open response writing
  3. Grammar, technical pieces, foundational skills
  4. How new pieces of literature are being received
  5. Dyslexia working group
  6. Staff survey and what kinds of questions are being asked
  7. How often are staff being surveyed?
  8. Report card revisions
  9. Is there consideration for an outside audit of the ELA program?
  10. Tiered level supports and needs

3. Public Comment

- a. Mari Weldon, Sudbury resident and Executive Director of Sudbury Extended Day, spoke to the Committee to share her gratitude in Sudbury Public School's vote of confidence in continuing their partnership.

4. Educational Matters

a. District Reports

i. SEA Report

1. SEA Representative Angela Spirito shared with the Committee examples of what is happening in the District.
  - a. Nixon students created notes to staff sharing their love and gratitude for all they do. They also had a visit by the Pumpernickel Puppets.
  - b. Haynes students were treated to a virtual read lab.
  - c. Noyes students had a visit by Author and Illustrator Giles LaRoche
  - d. Loring students hosted a Hearts for Hospitals drive; and

- e. Curtis Middle School held their first in person performance in two years.
- ii. Business and Finance Director's Report
  - 1. Business and Finance Director, Don Sawyer, provided two updates to the Committee. Sudbury Public Schools and the PTO's from each school will jointly host a Bus Driver Appreciation breakfast.
  - 2. The school lunch program expires at the end of the year. The Business Office will start working on a renewal bid and will bring this to the Committee in April.
- iii. Assistant Superintendent's Report
  - 1. Assistant Superintendent, Kim Swain, thanked Lauren Egizio and her Committee Members for their hard work. She also took a moment to assure the Committee that the English Language Arts and the Literacy Program continues to be a strength in Sudbury Public Schools.
  - 2. She also took a moment to acknowledge and thank the Committee for their support in funding an additional FTE at both Noyes and Loring and the role that grant funding continues to play.
  - 3. She also confirmed that all educator recommendations are in for the SMILE program and those recommendations will be discussed with parents during their Spring parent teacher conferences which are being held during the month of March.
  - 4. The District is holding a meeting for prospective METCO families to help them learn about our program.
- iv. Superintendent's Report
  - 1. Superintendent Crozier provided the Committee with an update on two meetings that both he and Business and Finance Director, Don Sawyer, recently attended. They were present at a February 14th Finance Committee meeting as well as a Capital Meeting held jointly with the Select Board, Capital Improvement Advisory Committee and Finance Committee on February 15th. Feedback received regarding the Capital Plan was positive.
  - 2. He also took a moment to remind the Committee that COVID changes begin on Monday, March 7. He reviewed recent CDC updates and guidance and how that would apply to the District.
  - 3. Superintendent Crozier took an opportunity to thank Betsy Grams and the Wellness Team for their work in guiding discussions with faculty on what masks optional will look like.

4. The Committee asked questions centered around the timing of when the updated bus guidelines fall into place, when links should be used and will positive reporting of tests still happen.

5. Business and Policy Matters

a. Review Custodians' Unit Memorandum of Agreement for FY22

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssessian took a moment to thank all those who participated in the negotiations process. She also took a moment to thank the Custodians for providing a clean and safe environment for the students as well as their partnership with students.
- ii. Meredith Gerson moves to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Sudbury School Committee and the Sudbury Education Association Custodial Employees Unit effective July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022. Tyler Steffey seconded the motion.

1. ROLL CALL VOTE

- a. Meredith Gerson - Aye
- b. Mandy Sim - Aye
- c. Tyler Steffey - Aye
- d. Sarah Troiano - Aye
- e. Silvia Nerssessian - Aye
- i. **VOTE:** 5-0. Motion carries.

- iii. Meredith Gerson moves to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Sudbury School Committee and the Sudbury Education Association Custodial Employees Unit effective July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025. Sarah Troiano seconded the motion.

1. ROLL CALL VOTE

- a. Meredith Gerson - Aye
- b. Mandy Sim - Aye
- c. Tyler Steffey - Aye
- d. Sarah Troiano - Aye
- e. Silvia Nerssessian - Aye
- i. **VOTE:** 5-0. Motion carries.

b. Monthly Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants Submission

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssessian confirmed that there is no action necessary but that the documents included in the packet were Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants previously accepted by the Committee.

c. Acceptance of Gift, Loring PTO Donation

- i. Meredith Gerson moves to accept the Loring PTO Donation of three bottle filling stations and replacement of the existing water fountains at the Israel Loring Elementary School with gratitude. Sarah Troiano seconded the motion.

1. ROLL CALL VOTE

- a. Meredith Gerson - Aye
- b. Mandy Sim - Aye
- c. Tyler Steffey - Aye
- d. Sarah Troiano - Aye
- e. Silvia Nerssessian - Aye
- i. **VOTE:** 5-0. Motion carries.

d. Tri-District Meeting Update

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssessian provided an update to the Committee on her meetings with the Chairs of the Lincoln Public and Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School Committees. Proposed meeting dates to meet with Legislators are in March and April.
- ii. Comment centered around clarification on the background of who attends the Tri-District Meeting and what the purpose is. Recommended topics to include in the meeting are Transportation, Student Equal Opportunity Act, Special Education Transportation Funding, METCO Funding, and the rise in mental illness and student needs from a mental health standpoint.

e. Future Agenda Items

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssessian recommended a review of the School Committee Operating Protocols and School Committee Self Assessment.
- ii. Superintendent Crozier recommended an additional School Committee meeting in May to allow for Principal updates.

f. Minutes (February 7, 2022)

- i. The School Committee reviewed and made minor edits to the minutes from the February 7, 2022 meeting.
  - 1. Meredith Gerson motioned to approve the open session meeting minutes from the February 7, 2022 meeting as amended. Sarah Troiano seconded the motion.
    - a. ROLL CALL VOTE
      - i. Meredith Gerson - Aye
      - ii. Mandy Sim - Aye
      - iii. Tyler Steffey - Aye
      - iv. Sarah Troiano - Aye
      - v. Silvia Nerssessian - Aye
      - 1. **VOTE:** 5-0. Motion carries.

6. Adjournment

- a. Chair Silvia Nerssessian motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Sarah Troiano seconded the motion.
  - i. ROLL CALL VOTE
    - 1. Meredith Gerson - Aye

2. Mandy Sim - Aye
3. Tyler Steffey - Aye
4. Sarah Troiano - Aye
5. Silvia Nerssessionian - Aye
  - a. **VOTE:** 5-0. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Julie Williams  
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

**Documents Reviewed During the February 28, 2022 School Committee Meeting**

Egizio ELA Presentation  
SEA\_CustodialEmployees\_OneYear  
SEA\_CustodialEmployees\_ThreeYear  
SC Meeting Warrant Summary - 022422.docx  
Loring PTO-Bottle Filler Donation  
Sudbury School Committee\_020722