

Sudbury School Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2022
Loring Elementary School
80 Woodside Road
Sudbury, MA 01776

Members Present:

Silvia Nersessian, Chair
Meredith Gerson, Vice Chair
Mandy Sim
Sarah Troiano

Members Absent:

None

Also Present:

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

Regular Session Meeting

Chair Silvia Nersessian opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

1. Public Comment
 - a. None

2. Educational Matters
 - a. District Reports
 - i. Director of Business and Human Resources
 1. Director of Business and Human Resources, Don Sawyer, informed the Committee that he closed the general fund operating budget for the FY22 fiscal year. He also informed them that federal grants close on August 30th.
 2. Questions from the Committee surrounded an update on the new payroll system.

 - ii. Assistant Superintendent Report
 1. Assistant Superintendent, Kim Swain, informed the Committee that Sudbury Public Schools application to become a Title 3 Consortium was approved by DESE. This allows the District to receive entitlement funds to support our English learners. Sudbury will be the consortium leader along with Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School, Lincoln and Concord Carlisle.

2. Questions from the Committee surrounded how often the application needs to be submitted, what the volume of purchasing will be and what allocation of dollars will Sudbury receive?
3. Assistant Superintendent Swain also gave an update on the SMILE Plus program. The program is in its second week and it is going better than expected. She took an opportunity to thank METCO Director, Sandra Walters, for bringing all our new METCO families to the SMILE program.

iii. Superintendent's Report

1. Superintendent, Brad Crozier, shared with the Committee that he and Kim Swain participated in the Executive Institute for Massachusetts Superintendents Conference. He gave an overview on who the speakers at the event were and shared information about the workshops they attended.
2. Questions from the Committee surrounded the themes and topics of the speeches given.
3. Superintendent Crozier also shared an update on the Fairbanks building project. Currently the contractors are working on removing the old water line, dust control and tree removal. All work so far has had no impact on the Sudbury Public School offices.
4. He also shared with the Committee that hiring in the district continues and he is thrilled with the strong candidates he has met with. He also shared that he will be announcing administration hires within the next few days.

3. Business and Policy Matters

a. School Committee Vacancy Update and Process

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssessian announced to the Committee that Tyler Steffey has resigned his position on the Committee. She took an opportunity to thank Tyler for his time and commitment to the community.
- ii. Chair Nerssessian then reviewed the legal logistics of appointing a new member to the Committee. She reminded everyone that this appointment is done in joint with the Select Board. She then reviewed the position posting timeline and process.
- iii. Clarifying questions surrounded whether the August 15th School Committee Meeting is to vote on the new Committee member.
 1. Chair Silvia Nerssessian asked for a motion to inform the Select Board of the vacancy and to invite them to the August 15th meeting to appoint a new Committee member. Meredith Gerson moved.

a. ROLL CALL VOTE:

- i. Meredith Gerson: Aye

- ii. Mandy Sim: Aye
 - iii. Sarah Troiano: Aye
 - iv. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
1. **Vote: 4-0.** Motion carries.

b. School Committee Handbook Review Process

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssessian reviewed the process to review the School Committee Handbook and discussed what areas need revisions.
- ii. The Committee agreed to move forward with the review.

c. Remote / In-Person Meeting Structure

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssessian shared with the Committee that Governor Charlie Baker extended remote meeting capabilities through March, 2023. The Committee reviewed pros and cons of both in person and remote meetings. They also discussed the challenges of having a hybrid option. The Committee agreed to remain with conducting remote meetings with an option to have workshops in person.
- ii. Questions surrounded whether the new Sudbury Public Schools offices would have the equipment capability to run a hybrid option.

d. Monthly Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants Submission

- i. No action required by the Committee.

e. Liaison Reports

- i. None

4. Open Executive Session

a. Meredith Gerson moved to convene in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A section 21(a) for the following purposes:

- i. Purpose (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparations for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, specifically the Superintendent; and
- ii. Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for collective bargaining with the Nurses' Union, because an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee; and
- iii. Purpose (7) to review and approve minutes from the following Sudbury School Committee executive session meeting of June 21, 2022 and the Committee will not return to Open Session. Sarah Troiano seconded the motion.

1. ROLL CALL VOTE:

- a. Meredith Gerson: Aye
- b. Mandy Sim: Aye

- c. Sarah Troiano: Aye
- d. Silvia Nerssessionian: Aye
 - i. **Vote: 4-0.** Motion carries.

- b. Chair Silvia Nerssessionian confirmed the Committee will convene in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A section 21(a) for the following purposes:
 - i. Purpose (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparations for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, specifically the Superintendent; and
 - ii. Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for collective bargaining with the Nurses' Union, because an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee; and
 - iii. Purpose (7) to review and approve minutes from the following Sudbury School Committee executive session meeting of June 21, 2022 and the Committee will not return to open session.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Williams
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Documents Reviewed During the July 18, 2022 School Committee Meeting

1. **SSC Handbook**
2. **SC Meeting Warrant Summary - 071422**