

Sudbury School Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
December 19, 2022  
Virtual Meeting

**Members Present:**

Silvia Nerssessian, Chair  
Meredith Gerson, Vice Chair  
Nicole Burnard  
Mandy Sim  
Sarah Troiano

**Members Absent:**

None

**Also Present:**

Brad Crozier, Superintendent  
Kim Swain, Assistant Superintendent  
Don Sawyer, Director of Business and Human Resources  
Stephanie Cohen Mongeon, SEA Representative  
Annette Doyle, Principal - Noyes Elementary School  
Lauren Egizio, Humanities Curriculum Coordinator  
Nadine Ekstrom, Principal - Haynes Elementary School  
Sara Harvey - Principal - Loring Elementary School  
Jeff Mela - Principal - Curtis Middle School  
Susan Woods - Principal - Nixon Elementary School

**Regular Session Meeting**

Chair Silvia Nerssessian opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

1. Opening Statement / Regular 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. Meredith Gerson, Nicole Burnard, Mandy Sim, Sarah Troiano and Silvia Nerssessian all affirmed in the positive.
2. Public Comment:
  - a. None.
3. Special Matters
  - a. ELA Curriculum Review Plan, Assistant Superintendent, Kim Swain, Humanities Curriculum Coordinator, Lauren Egizio

- b. Assistant Superintendent Kim Swain introduced Humanities Curriculum Coordinator, Lauren Egizio, and explained to the Committee that the ELA Curriculum is due for a review every 6 years.
- c. Ms. Egizio shared a presentation with the Committee on what the ELA Curriculum Review encompasses. She also shared detailed information on the roll out plan as well as resources needed to help support the review including professional development training, materials and instructional resources.
- d. Questions from the Committee surrounded what period of time we will see the new learnings from the proposed curriculum.
- e. Discussion then continued regarding the potential funding sources to help support the ELA review.

#### 4. Budget Hearing

- a. Meredith Gerson moves to open the Sudbury School Committee Budget Hearing for the FY24 budget. Sarah Troiano seconded the motion.
  - i. ROLL CALL VOTE
    - 1. Meredith Gerson: Aye
    - 2. Mandy Sim: Aye
    - 3. Nicole Burnard: Aye
    - 4. Sarah Troiano: Aye
    - 5. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
      - a. **Vote:** 5-0. Motion passes.
- b. Superintendent Crozier explained that after sharing his recommended budget, there will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions as the budget hearing allows for dialogue. He also noted that the Principals from each of the schools are online and available to speak as well. Mr. Crozier's presentation covered the budget development timeline, drivers, tier initiatives and funding sources.
- c. The Principals then had an opportunity to speak to each of the budgetary priorities at each of their schools and addressed student needs.
- d. Dan Carty, as the liaison to the Select Board, had no questions but wanted the Committee to know as their liaison he's happy to bring any questions they have to his Committee on their behalf.
- e. Karyn Jones, Sudbury resident, shared her appreciation for the Sudbury school system and their work in regards to making the mental health of students a priority.
- f. Superintendent Crozier spoke to the budget being out of alignment with the budget guidance and his belief that the presentations shared solidify the budget being recommended.
- g. Kevin Lahaise, Sudbury resident, took the opportunity to thank the Sudbury Public Schools and the Sudbury School Committee for supporting students.
- h. Chair Silvia Nerssessian moved to close the public hearing. Sarah Troiano seconded the motion.
  - i. ROLL CALL VOTE
    - 1. Meredith Gerson: Aye

2. Nicole Burnard: Aye
3. Mandy Sim: Aye
4. Sarah Troiano: Aye
5. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
  - a. **Vote:** 5-0. Motion passes.

5. Educational and Operational Matters

a. District Reports

i. SEA Report (Stephanie Cohen Mongeon)

1. Stephanie Cohen Mongeon shared with the Committee how teachers and staff are helping to support students in mental health and social emotional learning. She shared specific examples of how teachers are incorporating these lessons in everyday learning. She closed by sharing that the hope is there is enough staff to continue to meet the needs of students.

ii. Director of Business and Human Resources Report

1. Director of Business and Human Resources, Don Sawyer, shared that the work continues to transition to the new payroll system. The first payroll run on the new system will be January 12, 2023.
2. Questions from the Committee included when staff will be able to access their own personal information using the new system.

iii. Assistant Superintendent Report

1. Assistant Superintendent, Kim Swain, took the opportunity to congratulate the following SERF recipients: Nadine Ekstrom, Haynes staff members Stephen Gregg, Julie Whitehead, Heather Duckett as well as Leslie Smart and Cynthia Rouse. Ms. Ekstrom received a grant to support a nook space at the Haynes School. Mr. Gregg, Ms. Whitehead and Ms. Duckett received their grant to help support building thinking classrooms through vertical non permanent surfaces and Ms. Smart and Ms. Rouse received their grant to support a Harlem Renaissance traveling exhibit.
2. She then shared that the English Language Development team hosted a collaborative meeting with surrounding communities and in closing shared that Leslie Smart, Cynthia Rouse and Ms. Swain attended the first METCO family recruiting event in Boston.
3. Questions from the Committee included the timeframe on the traveling exhibit.

iv. Superintendent's Report

1. Superintendent Crozier thanked Ms. Swain, Ms. Smart and Ms. Rouse for their participation in the METCO recruitment program.
2. He reminded the Committee that he will be attending the Community Preservation Committee meeting along with Sandra Duran and Stephanie Juriansz to talk about and answer questions related to the Curtis Outdoor Wellness Structure.

3. Mr. Crozier shared with the Committee that students from the Curtis Middle School Leap and Flex programs recently traveled to Target to buy holiday gifts for families in need and in closing he shared that Students Services has announced their annual Kickoff to Kindergarten will be held virtually on January 31st at 6:00 p.m.

## 6. Business and Policy Matters

### a. FY24 Budget Working Session and Review

- i. Chair Nerssessian shared with the Committee that this is an opportunity to share feedback or ask clarifying questions regarding the budget.
- ii. Mandy Sim took the opportunity to thank the Principals for sharing their presentation and thanked the parents who spoke to the importance of supporting the students mental health concerns.
- iii. Discussion amongst the Committee resumed and questions surrounded the expansion of the PK program and whether there is room throughout the District to support this. Are we trying to use medicaid funding to support the ELA Curriculum update? Are medicaid and Chapter 70 funds considered one time funds.
- iv. Clarifying questions from the Committee surrounded whether they will see the impacts of what needs to be removed from the budget if we stay within the towns guidance. What are possible changes to services and programs? When will a list of impacted losses of staff be available if we aren't able to secure additional funding, and can a budget be approved that is above guidance.

### b. Monthly Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants Submission

- i. No action required by the Committee.

### c. Liaison Reports

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssessian will communicate with the liaisons from both the Finance Committee and the Select Board once a vote by the Committee has been taken.

## 7. Adjournment

- a. Chair Silvia Nerssessian moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 p.m. Sarah Troiano seconded the motion.

### i. ROLL CALL VOTE

1. Meredith Gerson: Aye
2. Nicole Burnard: Aye
3. Mandy Sim: Aye
4. Sarah Troiano: Aye
5. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Julie Williams  
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

**Documents Reviewed During the December 19, 2022 School Committee Meeting**

1. SC Copy of ELA Roll-out Plan
2. FINAL FY24 Superintendent Recommended Budget
3. SC Meeting Warrant Summary - 121622