

Sudbury School Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 22, 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

Regular Session Meeting

Chair Silvia Nerssessian opened the meeting at 7:00 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. Susan Berry, Sudbury resident, acknowledged she is a member of the Finance Committee but was speaking to the Committee on behalf of herself. She shared suggestions and recommendations on how to lower the override amount if one is being recommended by the Committee.

3. Business and Policy Matters
 - a. Superintendent's FY24 Recommended Budget Review
 - i. Chair Nerssessian confirmed this is an opportunity for dialogue and to get clarification on any questions regarding the proposed budget.
 - ii. Superintendent Crozier shared potential areas of reduction if needing to stay within the town's recommended budget.
 - iii. If an override is considered, the average increase in taxes per household will be around \$182.83. He then shared possible considerations to

reduce the gap which include medical reimbursement and uncommitted circuit breaker reimbursement funds.

- iv. Clarifying questions from the Committee surrounded how much of the medicaid payments have come in and were they the amounts we expected. Can funds be designated to SPS so they don't go to free cash. How many unexpected out of district placements were there.
- v. The Committee discussed the benefits of an override as it helps to fund the gap in the future vs. using circuit breaker funds which have the potential of unpredictability. They then discussed the proposed medicaid reimbursement town meeting warrant article and the concerns about the efforts in keeping up with the process to apply for these funds on a yearly basis.
- vi. Chair Silvia Nerssessian moves to approve the Superintendent recommended FY24 budget of \$43,976,000. Sarah Troiano seconded the motion.

1. ROLL CALL VOTE

- a. Meredith Gerson: Aye
- b. Nicole Burnard: Aye
- c. Mandy Sim: Aye
- d. Sarah Troiano: Aye
- e. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
- i. **Vote:** 5-0. Motion carries.

b. 2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant Article Discussion and Next Steps

- i. Chair Nerssessian opened the conversation to review with the Committee the proposed HVAC repair and replacement warrant article and the potential to revert the cost based on prior capital articles.
- ii. Questions from the Committee included how the reversion of funds work and will the reversion amounts be in the warrant article?

c. At-A-Glance Newsletter Review

- i. Nicole Burnard and Sarah Troiano made edits to the newsletter suggested from a previous meeting. Additional edits were discussed and voted upon.
- ii. Meredith Gerson moves to approve the Sudbury School Committee At-A-Glance Newsletter as amended. Sarah Troiano seconded the motion.

1. ROLL CALL VOTE

- a. Meredith Gerson: Aye
- b. Nicole Burnard: Aye
- c. Mandy Sim: Aye
- d. Sarah Troiano: Aye
- e. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
- i. **Vote:** 5-0. Motion carries.

d. Liaison Report

- i. Chair Nerssessionian shared that the Curtis Wellness Project was presented at the Community Preservation Committee meeting and planning the final details of the project is underway.
- ii. Mr. Crozier shared that he provided the CPC with details on the cost of the current project as well as former projects.

4. Adjournment

- a. Vice Chair, Meredith Gerson, moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. Mandy Sim 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 Nerssessionian: Aye
 - a. **Vote:** 5-0. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Williams
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Documents Reviewed During the December 22, 2022 School Committee Meeting

1. **FINAL FY24 Superintendent Recommended Budget**
2. **DRAFT December 2022 At-A-Glance**