

Sudbury School Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
June 14, 2023  
Virtual Meeting

**Members Present:**

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

**Members Absent:**

None

**Also Present:**

**Lincoln School Committee**

John MacLachlan, Chair  
Kim Rajdev, Vice Chair

**LS School Committee**

Lucy Maulsby  
Ravi Simon  
Mary Warzynski

Brad Crozier, Sudbury Public Schools Superintendent  
Becky McFall, Lincoln Public Schools Superintendent  
Bella Wong, Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School Principal and Superintendent  
Don Sawyer, Director of Business and Human Resources - Sudbury  
Kim Swain, Assistant Superintendent - Sudbury

**Special Session Meeting: Tri District Legislative Forum**

1. Opening Statement / Regular Session
  - a. Chair Silvia Nerssessian opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m., 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.
  - b. She then explained that because there isn't a quorum for both Lincoln Public Schools and Lincoln Sudbury Regional High Schools, there will be no roll call for those Committees. Members who were present for the meeting included:
    - i. John MacLachlan, Chair, Lincoln Public School Committee
    - ii. Kim Rajdev, Chair, Lincoln Public School Committee
    - iii. Becky McFall, Superintendent, Lincoln Public Schools
    - iv. Mary Warzynski, LSRHS School Committee Member
    - v. Lucy Maulsby, LSRHS School Committee Member
    - vi. Ravi Simon, LSRHS School Committee Member

vii. Bella Wong, LSRHS Principal and Superintendent

2. Welcome Legislators

- a. Chair Nersessian welcomed both Senator Jamie Eldridge and Representative Carmen Gentile to the meeting.

3. Legislative priorities and updates specifically impacting LPS, SPS and L-S

4. Updates from the Legislators on discussion topics:

- a. Tri-County Superintendent Legislative Priorities
- b. Transportation Bidding Process Updates
- c. Universal Free Lunch
  - i. Senator Eldridge began by sharing an update on the passing of the budget by the House and Senate. In addition, an increase in circuit breaker special ed funding, transportation costs and additional Chapter 76 funding is being provided in a supplemental budget in response to the financial challenges placed on school districts. Mental health funding continues to be supported in both schools and municipalities across the state.
  - ii. Representative Gentile expressed his support that the legislature is acting favorably in reference to the plans to establish a special education commission, increase Chapter 76 funding, raise circuit breaker reimbursement while decreasing the circuit breaker cost threshold. He recently served as a judge for the Curtis Middle School Civics Action Project, and most recently, he learned that a second social worker has been hired by the Town of Sudbury.
  - iii. Lastly, he shared his concerns regarding the challenges with the lack of submissions for the bidding process for transportation contracts, universal free lunch is being considered as a permanent addition to the budget and the Healthy Youth Act is gaining support with legislation.
  - iv. Superintendent Crozier gave an update, noting that post-pandemic student mental and behavioral health issues continue to be a priority. He discussed recent recruiting that was done to meet the demands of students. He also voiced his concerns about the OSD increase and the delays in which Chapter 70 funds are distributed to the district based on the current mechanism in place to receive those funds.
  - v. LSRHS Superintendent/Principal Wong discussed the expansion of staff in special education, clinical counseling, and the ability to administer tests to more children. It has been beneficial that social services outside of schools are providing more support.
  - vi. Then, Lincoln Superintendent McFall explained how Lincoln only receives funding for 50% of its students as a result of the federal department of defense contract that helps run the Hanscom schools and the challenges with finding money to support students' mental health needs.

- vii. The Committee expressed their gratitude and thanks to both Senator Eldridge and Representative Gentile for affirming their support in the topics discussed.
- viii. Clarifying questions surrounded the process and next steps for progression related to circuit breaker funding; clarity on what budget the out of district tuition can be found and is the mechanism to gain support for that through the attorney general or legislature? Additional questions included whether the Healthy Youth Act will come with a tool and funding to collect data tied to the program and is there a way to get more permanent funding for summer programming?

5. Adjournment

- a. Chair Silvia Nerssessian moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Sarah Troiano seconded the motion.

- i. ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Julie Williams  
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

**Documents Reviewed During the June 14, 2023 School Committee Meeting**  
**None**