# Sudbury School Committee Meeting Minutes January 6, 2025

#### **Members Present:**

Nicole Burnard, Chair Meredith Gerson, Vice Chair Karyn Jones Mandy Sim Mary Stephens

#### Also Present:

Brad Crozier, Superintendent Annette Doyle, Assistant Superintendent Lauren Egizio, Humanities Curriculum Coordinator Angela Spirito, SEA Rep and Kindergarten Teacher

#### Absent:

Don Sawyer, Director of Business and Human Resources

### **Regular Session Meeting**

Chair Nicole Burnard opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

- 1. Public Comment
  - a. Nancy Brumback, 36 Canterbury Drive, advocated for legislation for remote access to in person meetings.
  - b. Kay Bell, Sudbury resident, advocated for a hybrid option to School Committee meetings.
- 2. Educational and Operational Matters
  - a. SEA Report (Angela Spirito)
    - Ms. Spirito reported that elementary educators are analyzing MCAS data to identify areas for improvement in ELA and math with a goal to target individual students' needs.
    - ii. The Committee asked whether Curtis goes through the same MCAS analysis.
  - b. District Reports
    - i. Director of Business and Human Resources Report
      - 1. Mr. Sawyer was not present.
    - ii. Assistant Superintendent Report
      - The virtual Kickoff to Kindergarten webinar is scheduled for January 28th and will cover curriculum, school safety, registration and tips for transitioning your child. Registration for FY26 PK is underway.

- An IEP transition meeting for 8th grade families moving to high school is scheduled for January 15th. Directors from each District will be presenting.
- Questions related to whether Kickoff to Kindergarten will be recorded were asked

### iii. Superintendent's Report

- 1. The Integrated Monitoring Review for Special Education Civil Rights and EL are being reviewed this year. Preparation is underway for those visits with an onsite review scheduled during the week of January 15th.
- 2. Noyes Principal Selection Process
  - a. The Noyes Principal position has been announced and posted. The Selection Advisory Group, made up of staff and parents from Noyes as well as Central Office Administrators will be chosen by the end of the week.
  - Superintendent Crozier reviewed the process with the Committee and shared that an announcement should be made around February break.
  - c. Questions related to the timeline of the search and what Superintendent Crozier's level of involvement in the selection process was asked.

### 3. Business and Policy Matters

- a. Noyes PTO Gift Approval
  - i. Vice Chair Meredith Gerson moves to approve a gift from the Noyes PTO for four rectangular aluminum (36' x 60') backboards in the amount of \$1,992.00 with gratitude. Mandy Sim seconded the motion. **Vote**: 5-0. Motion carries.

## b. ELA Pilot Presentation

- Lauren Egizio, Humanities Curriculum Coordinator, provided the Committee with an overview of the ELA Program Adoption and Implementation. The presentation reviewed the process for selecting the new program along with a review of the timeline for rollout of the new curriculum.
- ii. Questions from the Committee focused on how the pilot programs were rated by teachers, what the challenges were, the timeline for middle school implementation, writing assessments, lengths of literacy blocks, professional development, and transition for new students entering the district.
- iii. Concerns surrounded the curriculum including just K-5 students, desired outcomes, strategies to support student progress, the timeline for learning and preparing the new curriculum and the training period for middle school implementation.

## c. FY26 Capital Updates and Town Meeting Warrant Articles

- Superintendent Crozier reviewed the Warrants presented to the Committee, noting that all articles have the support of Town Manager Andy Sheehan for consideration.
- ii. Questions regarding town counsel review and UDL retrofit funding were asked.

- iii. Recommended changes to the ELA Curriculum Update Warrant Article were made and agreed upon. The revised version will be presented at the next School Committee meeting for a vote.
  - Vice Chair Meredith Gerson moves to approve the FY26 Warrant Article for School Classroom Instructional Replacement. Mandy Sim seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0. Motion carries.
  - 2. Vice Chair Meredith Gerson moves to approve the FY26 Warrant Article for Sudbury Public Schools Instrumental Music Revolving Fund as presented. Mandy Sim seconded the motion. **Vote**: 5-0. Motion carries.
  - Vice Chair Meredith Gerson moves to approve the FY26 Sudbury Public Schools Bus Revolving Fund as presented. Mandy Sim seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0. Motion carries.
- iv. Member Karyn Jones asked to have the Special Education Stabilization Fund article included for the Committee to review.
- v. She reviewed how the Stabilization Fund works and the law that supports it.
- vi. Discussion amongst the Committee surrounded the avenue for approving such funds and clarification on a prior town meeting warrant article.
- vii. The Committee chose not to proceed with adding this as a Town Warrant Article and expressed their gratitude to Ms. Jones for her research and for presenting it for review.
- d. School Committee and Subcommittee Meeting Discussion
  - i. Hybrid Meetings; Subcommittee Meetings; Meeting Schedule
    - The Committee discussed hybrid meetings, noting that many comparable districts offer a similar format to SPS. With guidance from the state expected in March, they will wait for the final ruling before making decisions. Additionally, the possibility of allowing remote participation during public comment will be explored.
    - Questions were raised about remote public comment during in-person meetings, the participation of remote and in-person members during meetings, and whether Select Board policy states how other Committees conduct their meetings.
    - Regarding Subcommittee meetings, the Committee discussed the benefits
      to allow for livestream coverage and what it would entail. They agreed to
      livestream and record, will inquire if Sudbury TV can record if available
      and will need to ensure staff is available to help run the meeting.
    - 4. Questions regarding if the decision to livestream is made between the whole Committee or the Subcommittee itself was asked.
    - 5. In regards to the meeting schedule, the protocol on Subcommittee agenda packets was discussed as well as a member suggesting a more consistent process when adjusting meeting dates and times.
- e. Monthly Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants Submission
  - i. No further action required by the Committee.
- f. Liaison Reports

- The Communications Subcommittee met recently. The At-A-Glance Newsletter will be presented at a future meeting for approval. A survey and role and responsibilities sheet will also be presented for review.
- ii. SEPAC will have their next remote meeting on February 6th at 7:00 p.m. Parent surveys are due by January 10th.
- iii. A Policy Subcommittee Meeting is scheduled for January 24th at 10:00 a.m. Policies that were voted to be presented to the full Committee are forthcoming. These include policies related to Title 9, JIJC Student of Technology as well as Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Student policies.
- iv. A Capital Planning meeting including LSRHS, Select Board, Fin Com, CIAC and SPS is upcoming. Superintendent Crozier and Director of Business and Finance, Don Sawyer are scheduled to present.

## g. Minutes (12/2/24 and 12/5/24)

- i. Vice Chair Meredith Gerson moves to approve the Sudbury School Committee open session meetings minutes from December 2nd and December 5th as amended. Mandy Sim seconded the motion.
- ii. Minor edits were recommended and approved. **Vote**: 5-0. Motion carries.

## 4. Adjournment

a. Chair Nicole Burnard moves to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 p.m. Mandy Sim seconded the motion. **Vote**: 5-0. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Williams
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

# <u>Documents Reviewed During the January 6, 2025 School Committee Meeting</u>

- 1. Peter Noyes Outdoor Playground Backboards Approval
- 2. ELA Adoption Presentation1\_6\_24
- 3. FY26 Warrant Article\_Classroom Instructional Equipment Replacement\_Town Counsel Rec
- 4. FY26 SPS Instrumental Music rev fund Warrant Article
- 5. FY26 SPS Bus Rev. Fund Warrant Article
- 6. FY26 ELA Curriculum Implementation Warrant Article
- 7. ASPESF\_TownWarrantArticle
- 8. HybridMeeting
- 9. SC Meeting Warrant Summary 010325
- 10. 120224\_Sudbury School Committee Minutes\_DRAFT
- 11. 120524 Sudbury School Committee Minutes DRAFT

## **Additional Documents Reviewed**

1. K Bell Meeting Modes