

Sudbury School Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 31, 2026

Members Present:

Karyn Jones, Chair
Jessica McCready, Vice Chair
Nicole Burnard
Julie Durgin-Sicree
Betsy Sues

Also Present:

Brad Crozier, Superintendent
Annette Doyle, Assistant Superintendent
Leslie Smart, METCO Director

Absent:

Don Sawyer, Director of Business and Human Resources

Open Regular Session

Chair Karyn Jones opened the meeting at 6:02 p.m. She confirmed all members of the Committee are present.

1. Public Comment
 - a. None

2. District Reports
 - a. School Committee Chair
 - i. Thank you to Representative Carmine Gentile and his continued support of Sudbury Public Schools
 1. Chair Jones thanked Representative Carmine Gentile for including \$50,000 in the FY26 House supplemental budget to support Sudbury Public Schools students receiving specialized services and shared her appreciation for his continued partnership.

 - b. Director of Business and Human Resources Report
 - i. Mr. Sawyer was not present.

 - c. Assistant Superintendent Report
 - i. SOA Progress Report
 1. Assistant Superintendent Doyle shared an update on the Student Opportunity Act progress report that is submitted annually.

 - d. Superintendent's Report

- i. Kindergarten registration closes tomorrow. We are currently exceeding census projections.
- ii. The Special Olympics for students in grades 6-8 through CASE Collaborative is coming up.
- iii. The final unified basketball game of the season will be held in Ashland as a jamboree event.
- iv. Questions from the Committee surrounded NESDEC enrollment numbers.

3. New Business & Policy Matters

a. METCO FY26 Report, Leslie Smart, METCO Director

- i. Progress update regarding 2024-2025 METCO goals and initiatives:
 - 1. Establishment of elementary-level mentoring groups to support student connection and belonging
 - 2. Recruitment of METCO parent/family ambassadors to strengthen family engagement and provide insight
 - 3. Expansion of cultural competency and responsiveness training for staff and faculty
 - 4. Collaboration with Cabinet on strategic allocation of resources to support student success
 - 5. Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of programming, including use of data and evidence to assess impact
- ii. Discussion of proposed priorities, goals, and initiatives for the 2026-2027 school year, improve access to district opportunities, and strengthen engagement with families and
- iii. Q & A with families regarding METCO FY26 Report
 - 1. METCO Director, Leslie Smart, thanked all parents and colleagues for their support in attending the presentation.
 - 2. She then shared the annual METCO presentation, highlighting enrollment updates, a funding overview, student achievements, family and community partnerships as well as grant awards.
 - 3. Comments from METCO families included thanks to Mr. Shaw and the bus driver for their commitment to Boston families, requests for additional parent engagement opportunities, and an appreciation for the program, advisors, and teachers.
 - 4. Questions from the Committee surrounded the number of METCO students and how that gets chosen, transportation logistics and funding as well as after-school activities. Additional discussion focused on summer programming opportunities for METCO students, success rates in the METCO program, the number of METCO SPS students who continue on to LS, and why larger METCO programs may be more appealing to Boston families. The Committee also discussed opportunities for increased engagement with Boston families and the possibility of including a METCO parent as a non-voting member of the School Committee.

4. Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of the Victor School - Sudbury Campus
- b. Approval of updated Negotiations / Labor Relations Subcommittee Charge

- c. Receipt of Ephraim Curtis Middle School solar renderings
 - i. A request to pull the Subcommittee charge was requested asking if the edits and wording of the charge was from the attorney.
 - ii. Vice Chair Jessica McCready motioned to approve the Consent Calendar as amended. Betsy Sues seconded the motion. **Vote: 4-1.** Motion carries.
- 5. New Business & Policy Matters, continued
 - a. Review Budget Subcommittee recommendation regarding the Transportation RFP priorities including electric and alternative-fuel bus options and potential vote
 - b. Potential vote regarding FY28 Budget Development Timeline
 - i. The Budget Subcommittee met and discussed priorities for the bus RFP including dual pricing, and a pilot electric bus program. Further review is needed regarding feasibility and funding opportunities.
 - ii. Questions included consideration of a rent to own option.
 - iii. The Budget Subcommittee also reviewed the current timeline to determine whether adjustments are needed to allow time for priority setting, cost analysis, and forecasting.
 - iv. The Committee shared their feedback including the desire for earlier budget planning, priorities to advocate for increased guidance and budget options while acknowledging budget constraints.
- 6. Liaison Reports
 - a. SEPAC, LGBTQ+ PAC, Select Board, Finance Committee, LS Regional High School, Energy & Sustainability Committee, Park and Recreation Commission, MASC Delegate
 - b. Subcommittee Reports: Policy, Budget, Negotiations / Labor Relations, Calendar Review
 - i. 2025-2026 Policy Subcommittee work completed
 - ii. 2026-2026 Tri-District calendar review work completed
 - 1. The LGBTQ+ PAC continues to meet and work to finalize their bylaws.
 - 2. LS has finalized their regional agreement, finished negotiations for additional calendar observances and hired a new interim Finance Director.
 - 3. Initial budget discussions are under way with the Finance Committee.
- 7. Adjournment
 - a. Vice Chair Jessica McCready motioned to adjourn the March 31, 2026 Sudbury School Committee meeting at 7:50 p.m. Nicole Burnard seconded the motion. **All in favor. 5-0.** Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Julie Williams
 Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Documents Reviewed During the March 31, 2026 School Committee Meeting

- 1. SPS SOA FY26 Progress Report
- 2. METCO-organizational-brochure
- 3. METCO School Committee/Parent Meeting 2025-2026 FINAL DRAFT
- 4. Crozier Memo_Victor School

5. **The Victor School Approval**
6. **DRAFT Negotiations-LaborRelationsSubcommitteeCharge**
7. **render_1**
8. **render_2**
9. **Transportation RFP Priorities, Including Electric and Alternative Fuel Bus Options Memo**
10. **First Student and Cincinnati Public Schools to Deploy District's First Electric School Buses - First Student, Inc_**
11. **First Student Launches Six New Electric School Buses in Pennsylvania from EPA Round One Funding - First Student, Inc_**
12. **First Student Partners with Tacoma Public Schools to Introduce New Electric School Buses - First Student, Inc_**
13. **First Student to Boost Student Safety with Deployment of 40 New Electric School Buses in Pontiac, Michigan - First Student, Inc_**
14. **Arlington Awarded EPA Clean School Bus Rebate _ Arlington Public Schools**
15. **Healey-Driscoll Administration Awards Over \$9.5 Million to Electrify Public School Buses _ MassCEC**
16. **State Awards \$11.7 Million to Electrify Public School Buses - BusinessWest**
17. **FY27 Budget Book Budget Timeline**
18. **CommunityBudgetLetter**
19. **Memo_Budget Subcommittee_FY28 Budget Planning Outline (1)**
20. **Updates**
21. **March_April Newsletter .docx**