

**Sudbury Board of Selectmen
School District Administrative and Structural Options Subcommittee**

November 16, 2017, 4:30PM
Thompson Room, Flynn Building

Minutes

Members Present: Daniel Carty, Susan Iuliano

The Subcommittee opened the meeting at 4:32 p.m. Ms. Iuliano agreed to take minutes.

The Subcommittee reviewed recent discussions by the SPS and LSRHS School Committees. It was noted that SPS has decided to apply for a state grant to examine further regionalization or coordination between the districts. LSRHS decided not to apply for the grant.

The Subcommittee then discussed the recent presentation by MASC Director Glenn Koocher to the SPS School Committee concerning options for integrated school district structures. Mr. Koocher noted that districts that merge or regionalize rarely realize significant cost savings unless a school building is closed.

Ms. Iuliano addressed questions raised by Mr. Koocher's presentation that she sent to Christine Lynch, Regional Governance Director at DESE. Ms. Lynch noted that there are no approved two-town regional districts that serve one town at the high school level and the other at the K-12 level. She reported that one seven-town district with different grade configurations for member towns has been approved by the Commissioner and by special legislation. Ms. Lynch stated that DESE would work with districts and towns on any proposed regional changes. She further opined that the SPS and LSRHS school committees, with their current structures, could jointly hire a Superintendent and other central administrative staff without approval from either town.

The Subcommittee discussed the concerns that may support exploration of other structures. It was agreed that efficiency and continuity would be the primary goals. Mr. Carty noted that dropping enrollment at Curtis could be a factor to consider. It would be expected that shared administration or further regionalization could result in some, but not significant, cost savings.

There was further discussion regarding other issues that might be addressed between the two towns. Questions were raised about the need for an agreement regarding the turf field, about funding for Hanscom retiree children attending LS, and about the regional agreement cost allocation.

The Subcommittee decided that the next step would be to meet again and consider how to better articulate the underlying interests or concerns in Sudbury that have resulted in the proposal to explore other administrative or district options. It was agreed that the concerns were broader than improving student transitions and continuity between the K-8 districts and the high school. Then, the Subcommittee will seek to meet with the two school committee chairs. Based on their input, the Subcommittee would then reach out to Lincoln Selectwoman Jennifer Glass, the Lincoln liaison to the Sudbury BOS, about a potential meeting with her.

The meeting adjourned at 5:26 pm.