

Sudbury School Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 8, 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
Angela Spirito, SEA Representative

Regular Session Meeting

Chair Silvia Nerssessian opened the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

1. Opening Statement / Executive 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, Sarah Troiano and Silvia Nerssessian all affirmed in the positive.
 - b. Meredith Gerson moved to convene into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for collective bargaining with the Sudbury Education Association and Nurses' Union, because an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee and to review and approve minutes from the following Sudbury School Committee Executive Session meeting of October 24, 2022. Sarah Troiano seconded.
 - i. ROLL CALL VOTE
 1. Meredith Gerson: Aye
 2. Nicole Burnard: Aye
 3. Sarah Troiano: Aye
 4. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
 - a. **VOTE:** 4-0. Motion carries.

- c. Chair Silvia Nerssessian confirmed that the Committee will enter into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for collective bargaining with the Sudbury Education Association and Nurses' Union, because an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee and to review and approve minutes from the following Sudbury School Committee Executive Session meeting of October 24, 2022 and the Committee will reconvene in open session.
 - d. Return from Executive Session
 - i. Chair Silvia Nerssessian noted that the Committee returned from the Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. Chair 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. None
- 3. Educational and Operational Matters
 - a. MCAS Report, Assistant Superintendent, Kim Swain
 - i. Assistant Superintendent, Kim Swain, provided a review of the MCAS results students took in the Spring of 2022. She shared that the results have been reviewed and are informative in helping to understand where adjustments need to be made. Impacts in learning were mostly seen in literacy and writing. She shared that students in the upper elementary grade levels are gaining progress in both ELA and Math. Ms. Swain also shared that Science data shows progress being made amongst the 5th and 8th graders as well.
 - ii. Comments from the Committee included the desire to have the MCAS working group report back to the Committee to receive periodic updates on student progress. Questions from the Committee included where the ELA Curriculum Review team is with their review and will it be beneficial to have outside help in reviewing the curriculum.
 - b. District Reports
 - i. SEA Report (Angela Spirito)
 - 1. Ms. Spirito thanked the Committee for the opportunity to update them with what's going on in the district. She then shared that Haynes 5th graders are researching underwater biospheres. Second and third graders at Loring just finished a unit on Pablo Picasso to celebrate Hispanic Heritage month. Second through fifth grade students at Nixon are playing cooperative games in PE

and ukuleles were purchased at the Noyes School through a SERF grant. Library classes at Noyes are learning about Diwali, all third grade students are playing their recorders again, spanish students celebrated Day of the Dead and 8th graders at the middle school presented reports in french in their world language classes.

ii. Director of Business and Human Resources Report

1. Director of Business and Human Resources, Don Sawyer, shared that the payroll system transition continues and the Business Office is preparing for FY24 budget development.
2. He also shared that he participated in a capital planning meeting with other departments within the Town.
3. Mr. Sawyer was notified last week that the Massachusetts School Building Authority put a hold on Accelerated Repair Plan funds for 2023. There will be no impact this year but there will be for FY24. This hold is due to the current economic conditions.
4. Questions from the Committee included whether pauses from the Massachusetts School Building Authority or any other group had happened in the past? If so, what was the duration?

iii. Assistant Superintendent Report

1. Assistant Superintendent, Kim Swain, updated the Committee on the evaluation and supervision cycle for teachers and administrators. She also took a moment to recognize the education support professionals in the district as they are participating in professional development geared towards trauma de-escalation and intervention strategies.

iv. Superintendent's Report

1. Superintendent, Brad Crozier, reported to the Committee that December 21 is the date given to present the Curtis Wellness structure to the CPC. He also shared that budget preparation is underway and meetings with cost centers have started.
2. Dr. Tracey Benson is in the district this week and he is working directly with middle school administrators.
3. Lastly, Mr. Crozier shared that he represented the district at a recent MASC / MASS Conference. He led a talk on communication strategies which included Superintendent PIE meetings and other parent forums.

4. Business and Policy Matters

a. FY24 Budget Preparation

i. NESDEC Enrollment Projections

1. Superintendent Crozier explained to the Committee that NESDEC is a third party vendor who helps project enrollment numbers. They use historical data and trends to determine these projections. These projections are used in helping to plan the budget.
2. Clarifying questions from the Committee included a better understanding of the Haynes School projected enrollment and why do the Noyes School numbers seem to jump significantly?

b. Future Agenda Items

- i. Chair Silvia Nerssessian shared that future dates are being looked at for workshops which will cover student achievement.
- ii. Vice Chair, Meredith Gerson, shared that a Policy Sub Committee Meeting will be taking place on November 9th and that policy updates are forthcoming.
- iii. Questions from the Committee included clarification on the FY24 town report and how that works.

5. Adjournment

- a. Chair Silvia Nerssessian moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Meredith Gerson seconded.
 - i. ROLL CALL VOTE
 1. Meredith Gerson: Aye
 2. Nicole Burnard: Aye
 3. Mandy Sim: Aye
 4. Sarah Troiano: Aye
 5. Silvia Nerssessian: Aye
 - a. **Vote:** 5-0. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Williams
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Documents Reviewed During the November 8, 2022 School Committee Meeting

1. MCAS Reporting FY23
2. 22SudburyMA
3. 22SudburyMA-SBS