

**Sudbury Public Schools  
Sudbury, Massachusetts  
School Committee Regular Meeting  
Wednesday November 2, 2011  
Fairbank Community Center**

**Present:** Jeff Beeler, Chairman; Susan Iuliano, Vice Chair;  
Dr. Rich Robison, Lisa Gutch, Ellen Winer Joachim

**Also Present:** Dr. Anne Wilson, Superintendent; Dr. Judy Malone Neville, Assistant Superintendent;  
Mary Will, Business and Finance Director; Kate Gentile, SEA

**Open Session**

Jeff Beeler called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**VOTED:** On a motion by Jeff Beeler, seconded by Susan Iuliano, to go into Executive Session for purposes of a grievance hearing under the collective bargaining agreement, to return to Open Session. The vote was 5–0 in favor. The time was 7:30.

Yes Jeff Beeler  
Yes Susan Iuliano  
Yes Rich Robison  
Yes Lisa Gutch  
Yes Ellen Winer Joachim

**Open Session**

Jeff Beeler called the resumed Open Session to order at 7:55 p.m. The meeting was taped for public access broadcast.

**2. Facilities Director Update**

The Committee was provided the most recent proposed agreement. Jeff Beeler stated that a more substantive report will be made at an upcoming meeting.

**3. School Committee Report**

(a) Communications/Public Relations

Lisa Gutch reported that the Sudbury Family Network, *Sudbury Patch*, and the *Town Crier* are posting the notice of the pre-K coffees scheduled for November 15. She is working with Chartwells for catering services. The Committee discussed the format and content of the gatherings.

In anticipation of the interest generated by the *Town Crier/Patch* article drafted by Lisa Gutch, Assistant Superintendent Judy Malone Neville will post the ILAP calendar on the District website.

The Committee provided some additional feedback and historical perspective on the ILAP days. Also discussed was the breadth of activities that occur during ILAP beyond professional development, conferences, and placement meetings. Included among these are sharing best practices and implementing the common core or other educational initiatives, activities that ensure quality across the District.

Also noted was that the need for ILAP has waxed and waned over the years, at times related to the collective experience of the staff, and that ILAP formalized some of the activities already underway within the District.

Rich Robison proposed emphasizing the tie-in between ILAP (Improved Learning for All Plan) and the District's longstanding motto of 'Improving on Excellence', in particular, that ILAP provides an opportunity for engaged and enthusiastic adult learners.

Jeff Beeler noted that ILAP scheduling actually led to a net gain in classroom time in that teachers gave up certain time they had under their contract as part of the program and that the classroom experience is enriched by ILAP activities. Kate Gentile commented that it is less about longevity than currency and the opportunity for District-wide collaboration that could not otherwise occur.

**VOTED:** On a motion by Susan Iuliano, seconded by Jeff Beeler to authorize Lisa Gutch to finalize the ILAP article with the input provided by the Committee. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

(b) **Transportation Warrant Article Update**

Susan Iuliano led the discussion surrounding a possible home-rule petition to charge all SPS student riders bus fees. Last year, the Committee submitted such an article for the Town Warrant, but indefinitely postponed in order to better develop the proposal and goals, including possible fee structures and plans for the increased revenue. The Committee had also discussed seeking an advisory opinion from DESE and monitored a petition originated in Sharon. That petition was recently considered at a legislative hearing; however, it appears to be stuck in committee.

The Committee agreed to some preliminary outreach to legislators concerning the likelihood of transportation reimbursements—which have not been received since 2003—for information on the Sharon petition, and for a general sense of the likelihood of such a petition passing. As well, the Committee discussed the option of seeking an advisory opinion from DESE. The Committee appreciates that even if the Town votes to approve the petition, there is no guarantee of success within the legislature. Moreover, the Committee is aware that it could take years to assess impacts, such as changes in ridership, that might result from a revised fee structure.

**1. Capital Improvements Update**

Mary Will circulated the District's running list of priorities for capital improvements. Department heads from the three cost centers prioritized the collective lists, which then go to the Town Manager and the Capital Improvement Committee for final approval. Ms. Will reported that two items on the District's list will likely be included for final consideration by the CIPC: replacement of the Noyes switch gear (\$65K) and roof repairs at four schools (\$110K). Because the roof repairs fall under a broader Town building initiative, they would be covered under a debt exclusion being considered for Town Meeting, while the switch gear would be part of the capital budget.

**4. Open Forum**

Peter Ferguson, a student from Framingham State University, asked how to obtain meeting minutes prior to public posting. Mr. Ferguson was advised to contact the Superintendent with his request.

**5. Superintendent's Report**

(a) **FY12 Enrollment Update**

Superintendent Wilson reported an overall decrease in enrollment of 20 students. She noted that the pre-K enrollment is already up by two students and that at least three more are expected within the next month. Dr. Wilson stated that she and Assistant Superintendent Judy Malone Neville are assessing the sections structure and scheduling at

Curtis in light of the variance in grade-level enrollments. She noted that both she and Dr. Malone Neville have experience in making such adjustments within a team-based structure.

(b) Donations  
None.

(c) Recognitions  
Superintendent Wilson recognized the Nixon fifth graders who assisted on her tour of the school and provided their perspective on their school experience. Of note, students commented on their supportive, accessible teachers.

Dr. Wilson also had high praise for Sudbury Fire Department Chief Bill Miles and Scott Nix of the Sudbury Police for keeping in constant contact over the storm damage and for working to clear hazards so that school could reopen. She acknowledged Rita Skog and Mary Will, who assessed walking routes and bus stops. Superintendent Wilson stated that the District truly has dedicated partners concerned for the safety of its students.

(d) Bill Schedule  
A Bill Schedule was presented.

(e) Personnel Actions  
None.

## 9. Minutes

**VOTED:** On a motion by Lisa Gutch, seconded by Susan Iuliano, to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2011 Regular Session. The vote was 5–0 in favor.

## 10. Communications

The Committee received the FinCom’s ‘cost center’ letter, which includes a series of questions and outlines the process for submitting budgets.

## 11. Members’ Forum

Rich Robison, who is the Committee’s delegate to MASC, reported that he is unable to attend the MASC/MASS conference next week. Dr. Robison also reported that the results of the forum on the Town sewer are available online.

Ellen Winer Joachim announced that the Sewer Citizen’s Advisory Committee met for the first time last week.

## 12. Adjourn

**VOTED:** On a motion by Jeff Beeler, seconded by Susan Iuliano, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with both union and non-union personnel, as discussion in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee, not to return to Open Session. The vote was 5–0 in favor. The time was 9:10 p.m.

Yes Jeff Beeler  
Yes Susan Iuliano  
Yes Rich Robison  
Yes Lisa Gutch  
Yes Ellen Winer Joachim

Submitted by Sheila Cusolito, Recording Secretary