

Sudbury School Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
January 6, 2020  
Goodnow Library  
21 Concord Road  
Sudbury, MA 01776

**Members Present:**

Lisa Kouchakdjian, Chair  
Silvia Nerssessian, Vice Chair  
Meredith Gerson  
Maggie Helon  
Christine Hogan

**Also Present:**

Brad Crozier, Superintendent  
Don Sawyer, Director of Business and Finance  
Kim Swain, Assistant Superintendent  
Erin Kehew, SEA Representative

**Regular Session Meeting**

Chair Lisa Kouchakdjian opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

1. Public Comment
  - a. Monica Rogan spoke to the Committee inquired about the state of planning for after school programming in light of the coming changes to school start times. Ms. Rogan also asked about the communication of school policies.
2. Special Matters
  - a. Superintendent Recommended FY21 Budget
    - i. The Committee reviewed and discussed the Superintendent's Recommended budget for FY21, as well as the three-year budget forecast prepared by Director of Business and Finance Don Sawyer. Superintendent Crozier noted that the budget forecast used level funding of contracts during periods when those contracts have not yet been negotiated.
      1. Christine Hogan motioned to approve the Superintendent's Recommended Budget as presented, Silvia Nerssessian seconded.
        - a. **VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.
3. Educational Matters
  - a. Districts Reports
    - i. SEA Report

1. Erin Kehew spoke to the Committee about how teachers ended 2019 and started 2020 in their classrooms. Second graders are finishing a unit on Native Americans; third graders are learning about magnets and biographies; fourth graders are learning how to conduct research; and fifth graders are learning about watersheds.
    2. Ms. Kehew also informed the Committee about professional development being received by the Math teachers in grades 6, 7, and 8.
  - ii. Business and Finance Director's Report
    1. None
  - iii. Assistant Superintendent's Report
    1. Assistant Superintendent Kim Swain reported to the Committee on the state of ACCESS testing in the District, which began earlier that day.
  - iv. Superintendent's Report
    1. Superintendent Brad Crozier reminded the Committee and the community that the next Superintendent-Parent Information Exchange will be held on January 16 at 9:15 AM in his office at 40 Fairbank Road.
    2. Mr. Crozier also informed the Committee that work has begun on the FY21 Budget Book. He invited feedback on the FY20 Budget Book from the Committee. When the project is finished, the FY21 Budget Book will be posted to the SPS website.
4. Business and Policy Matters
  - a. Warrants for Annual Town Meeting
    - i. Mr. Sawyer led the Committee in a review of the SPS-relevant warrant articles for the Annual Town Meeting. The warrant articles concern the revolving funds for the instrumental music program and buses, respectively; improvements to the Loring playground; the purchase of surveillance cameras for all five schools.
      1. Silvia Nerssessian motioned to approve the Sudbury Public Schools Instrumental Music Revolving Fund article and authorize the Director of Business and Finance to submit on behalf of the Committee, Meredith Gerson seconded.
        - a. **VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.
      2. Silvia Nerssessian motioned to approve the Sudbury Public Schools Playground Improvement article and authorize the Director of Business and Finance to submit on behalf of the Committee, Meredith Gerson seconded.
        - a. In discussion after the motion, Mr. Sawyer gave a brief history of the playground improvement projects that have occurred across Sudbury Public Schools over the last few

years, including how each new playground was financed. Committee questions centered on what fundraising was done for the project; what, if any, contingency funds exist to support construction; and the state of planning the Loring parking lot project.

**b. VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.

3. Silvia Nerssessian motioned to approve the School Bus Revolving Fund article and authorize the Director of Business and Finance to submit on behalf of the Committee, Meredith Gerson seconded.

**a. VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.

4. Silvia Nerssessian motioned to approve the Sudbury Public Schools Surveillance Camera article and authorize the Director of Business and Finance to submit on behalf of the Committee, Meredith Gerson seconded.

**a.** In discussion after the motion, Superintendent Crozier explained the cost differences between this quote and a previous one received by the Committee.

**b. VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.

**b. Receive EDCO, CASE, ACCEPT Annual Reports**

- i. The Committee reviewed the annual reports from the collaboratives of which SPS is a member. It was noted that two of the reports didn't include a link and addendum document, respectively.

1. Silvia Nerssessian motioned to receive the 2019 Annual Report from ACCEPT Collaborative, Maggie Helon seconded.

**a. VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.

2. Silvia Nerssessian motioned to receive the 2019 Annual Report from CASE Collaborative, Maggie Helon seconded.

**a. VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.

3. Silvia Nerssessian motioned to receive the 2019 Annual Report from EDCO Collaborative, Maggie Helon seconded.

**a. VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.

**c. Gift Acceptance**

**i. Aspirations**

1. The Committee considered a donation of \$50,000 from the Jack and Mae Rosenberg Trust, to fund the Aspirations program.

**a.** Maggie Helon motioned to accept the gift of \$50,000 from the Jack and Mae Rosenberg Trust, Silvia Nerssessian seconded.

**i. VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.

**d. Liaison Reports**

- i. Silvia Nerssessian reminded the Committee of the upcoming Finance Committee Budget Hearing on January 30th. Ms. Nerssessian also

informed the Committee that the Select Board will be holding Town Manager finalist interviews later that week.

- ii. Maggie Helon informed the Committee that SEPAC will be holding a meeting that coming Wednesday at the Police Station.
- iii. Christine Hogan shared the positive feedback she received regarding the Committee's recent newsletter to the Committee, as well as requests she heard that the Committee begin including information on the upcoming start time changes on all its communications.

e. Minutes

i. December 12, 2019

1. The School Committee reviewed and revised the minutes from the Committee's December 12, 2019 meeting.

a. Silvia Nerssessian motioned to approve the minutes from December 12, 2019, Meredith Gerson seconded.

i. **VOTE: 4-0-1.** Motion carries.

ii. December 16, 2019

1. The School Committee reviewed and revised the minutes from the Committee's December 16, 2019 meeting.

a. Silvia Nerssessian motioned to approve the minutes from December 16, 2019, as edited, Meredith Gerson seconded.

i. **VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries.

5. Adjournment

a. Christine Hogan motioned to adjourn the meeting, Silvia Nerssessian seconded.  
**VOTE: 5-0.** Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Justin Dulak

**Documents Reviewed During the January 6, 2020 School Committee Meeting**

1. 2020-21 Proposed Budget Presentation
2. Sudbury Public Schools Instrumental Music Revolving Fund Article
3. Sudbury Public Schools Playground Improvement Article
4. Sudbury Public Schools Bus Revolving Fund Article
5. Sudbury Public Schools Surveillance Cameras Article
6. 2018-2019 Annual Report from ACCEPT
7. 2018-2019 Annual Report from CASE
8. 2018-2019 Annual Report from EDCO
9. Herbert Stoller Letter to Superintendent Brad Crozier
10. Check to Sudbury Public Schools for \$50,000
11. Regular Session Meeting Minutes Draft for December 12, 2019
12. Regular Session Meeting Minutes Draft for December 16, 2019

13. Sudbury Public Schools Three Year Budget Forecast