

## **Sutton School Committee** **Sutton, Massachusetts 01590**

The Sutton School Committee met in the Wally Johnson Meeting Room of the Sutton Municipal Center on Monday, December 6, 2010.

**School Committee Members present** at the meeting were Ms. Liisa Locurto, Chairperson, Ms. Kristen Feifert Clark, Secretary, Mr. Jesse Limanek and Mr. Nathan Jerome.

**Administrators present** at the meeting were Mr. Ted Friend, Superintendent, Ms. Sue Rothermich, Business Manager, Ms. Lauren Dubeau, Simonian Center Principal and Mr. Michael Breault, Elementary School Principal.

**Others present** – Ms. Courtney Roberts, Student Representative, Julie Maloney, Elementary School Representative from the Sutton Teacher’s Association.

### **Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order**

Ms. Locurto called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and called for a moment of silence to remember Michael Ellsessar, who died tragically during a JV football game on the day of the last School Committee meeting (November 15<sup>th</sup>). Ms. Locurto also acknowledged Mr. Friend, the administrators, guidance staff and teachers, and their leadership and the tremendous support to the students and the community during this very sad and difficult time.

### **Agenda Item 2 – Citizen Forum**

No one wished to speak.

### **Agenda Item 3 – Consent Agenda**

Ms. Feifert Clark moved and Mr. Jerome seconded to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Carried 4/0

### **Agenda Item 4 – Student Update**

Ms. Courtney Roberts, Student Representative, provided the following update:

- Seven students participated in the Lions’ Club speech contest on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, which included participants from schools throughout the Blackstone Valley. Cody Reinhold, from Sutton, the winner, will proceed to the Zone Competition on December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Coach’s Night, an opportunity to meet the coaches for the winter sports, took place on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Last week, the French and Art students went on a field trip to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.
- On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the sophomores went to see ‘A Christmas Carol’ at a theater on the north shore.
- The fall sports Athletic Banquet will take place on Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- The High School Band will perform during the day for the students on Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, and for the public in the evening on December 9<sup>th</sup>, in the Simonian Center auditorium.

- Progress reports will be issued this Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The Chorus Concert will take place at 7pm in the Simonain Center auditorium on December 14<sup>th</sup>.
- On December 15<sup>th</sup>, the Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) group will be holding a conference for all high school students on the topic of ‘what it means to be an ally’.
- The High School Band performed on the Town Common last weekend during the Chain of Lights Festival.

**Agenda Item 5 – Discuss 2011-2012 School Calendar**

Ms. Julie Maloney, Elementary School Representative of the Sutton Teacher’s Association read a statement with respect to the proposed Professional Development days, expressing concern about having a Professional Developmental day on the last day of school.

Mr. Friend asked that the Committee accept the Calendar as proposed, at least to set the start and end date, for school construction planning purposes, and he will bring forth a future proposal for where best to place the final Professional Development day.

Mr. Jerome moved and Ms. Feifert Clark seconded to adopt the 2011-2012 School Calendar, as amended; with the first half-day on October 19<sup>th</sup>, and the second on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Carried 4/0

**Agenda Item 6 – Update on SCEL and Elementary MCAS Results**

Ms. Dubeau and Mr. Breault reviewed the highlights of the results of the 2009-2010 MCAS and discussed the assessment and MCAS tools available to the teachers (MAPS, Soliloquy, Study Island, DIBELS). Dynamic groupings of students are made, based on the results of these assessments, to help teach to students’ level and ability.

**Agenda Item 7 – Budget Update**

Ms. Sue Rothermich presented an update on the current status of the budget; there are no concerns with the spending to date.

**Agenda Item 8 and Agenda Item 9 – Second Reading and Adoption of Bullying Policy JICFB, and Review of District Bullying Plan**

Per the new state law that was recently passed, a bullying plan must be in place by the end of December 2010. This new policy, presented by Mr. Friend, has been put forth by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) and has all of the components required by the new law. The Bullying Plan will be presented at a future date, following further review.

Mr. Jerome moved and Ms. Feifert Clark seconded to adopt JICFB, Bullying Prevention as the Sutton Public School’s Policy on Bullying.

Carried 4/0

**Agenda Item 10 – Superintendent’s Update**

Mr. Friend provided the following:

- Mr. Friend commented on the incredible community response to the tragic death of Michael Ellsessar.
- This is the ‘holiday concert season’; tomorrow, December 7<sup>th</sup> is the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade band concert, the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade concert is on Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, the High School Band concert is on

Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. On Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> is the High School Chorus concert, and the Middle School Chorus concert is on Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.

- The fall sports Athletic Banquet will be taking place on December 7<sup>th</sup>, with dinner and awards.
- The Literacy Challenge committee met again last week; they will be looking to form subcommittees. The goal is to roll the plan out in April, with a 1-year window, with a challenge to read 10 million pages of text – this will be a community-wide event, and will incorporate a physical challenge as well, to promote physical fitness as well as literacy. More information to come.
- The District Learning Team met last week as well. There are many opportunities to work together to improve the district and all parents and community members are welcome to contribute ideas and attend the meetings.
- There have been two negotiation sessions with the Teachers’ Association so far and there will be another on Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.
- The next Building Committee meeting is Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. There have been two recent meetings, involving interior and exterior design.
- About \$30,000 will be built into the budget for compensation for a cyclical review of the curriculum by a curriculum review committee, made up of teachers and administrators. This will help to cover an integral missing piece in the district, since the loss of the Curriculum Coordinator position.

**Agenda Item 11 – New Business, Agenda Items, Action Items**

Ms. Locurto thanked Mr. Friend for his efforts as the ‘greeter’ at the schools during the Chain of Lights Festival.

**Agenda Item 12 – Adjournment to Executive Session**

At 8:22 p.m., Mr. Jerome moved and Ms. Feifert Clark seconded to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategies with respect to collective bargaining and not to return to Open Session.

Mrs. Feifert-Clark – Yes  
Mr. Jerome – Yes  
Mrs. Locurto – Yes  
Mr. Brennan - Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol S. Colena  
Recording Secretary