

Sutton School Committee
Sutton, Massachusetts 01590

The Sutton School Committee met in Room 1A of the Sutton Municipal Center on Monday, November 23rd, 2009.

School Committee Members present at the meeting were Ms. Liisa Locurto, Chairperson, Ms. Kristen Feifert Clark, Secretary, Mr. Paul Brennan, Ms. Tracey Zuliani (at 7:33p.m.) and Ms. Wendy Mead.

Administrators present at the meeting were Dr. Cecilia Di Bella, Superintendent, Mrs. Lauren Dubeau, Simonian Center Principal, Mr. Michael Breault, Elementary School Principal and Ms. Lucille DiLeo, Director of Curriculum and Instruction.

Others present – Denise Harrison, 4th Grade teacher.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Ms. Locurto called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Citizen Forum

No one wished to speak.

Agenda Item 3 – Consent Agenda

Mr. Brennan moved and Ms. Mead seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Carried 4/0

Agenda Item 4 – Student Update

No student representative present to provide an update.

Agenda Item 5 – Update on Simonian Center and Elementary School Improvement Plans and AYP Status

First Mrs. Dubeau and then Mr. Breault reviewed and discussed the highlights of the Simonian Center and the Elementary School's Improvement Plan and gave an update on the AYP.

Agenda Item 6 – Report on Standards-based Report Card

Mr. Breault, Ms. DiLeo and Ms. Denise Harrison, presented an update on the standards-based report card, which is now in its fourth year of development and is poised for implementation. The first report cards using this format will be sent out on December 4th. The next step will be to receive feedback from parents.

Agenda Item 7 – Update on School Building Project

Ms. Mead noted that the deadline for submitting required documents for the MBSA's January review meeting is December 16th. At that meeting MBSA will vote on the project design allowing Sutton's application to move forward to the schematic design stage. Dr. Di Bella and Mrs. Rothermich, in particular have very involved in developing these submittals. The school building committee website is

continuously updated with the most current information, including project history and frequently asked questions. Every possible angle of 'green' building is under consideration as well in order to take advantage of all available incentive programs.

Agenda Item 8 – Update on Superintendent Search

Ms. Locurto reported that both parent spaces on the search committee have now been filled. Also, Margo Austein, Director of Special Education, has been added. There is still an opening for a community member. Anyone interested should contact the Superintendent's office no later than December 4th. Focus groups took place earlier this month. Dr. Ferris will present a report at the next school committee meeting.

Agenda Item 9 – Superintendent's Update

Dr. Di Bella offered the following:

- Three excellent athletic teams were recognized; the girls varsity soccer team and the boys and girls track teams have done very, very well this season.
- Congratulations to the Drama Club on their recent excellent performances of Arsenic and Old Lace. Seniors in the community were transported to the event in the school district's van.
- Several food drives in the schools over the past few weeks have resulted in a huge donation to the Sutton food pantry.
- Town Administrator, Jim Smith is spearheading a project to aggressively pursue federal stimulus grant money to fund a good deal of the installation of photovoltaic roof panels for the Simonian Center roof. To that end, he has put out a Request for Proposals for this project. If implemented, there will be recurring savings to the school district over the years in terms of the electric bill. Mr. Smith has put together a group to review the applications that are submitted for this project. A public 'thank you' to Mr. Smith for his efforts on behalf of the schools.
- Many thanks to the three nurses and the group of volunteers who held the first, very successful H1N1 flu vaccination clinic last Thursday. It was very well organized and went smoothly. Depending on vaccine availability, the next clinic is tentatively scheduled for Friday, December 4th for students in grades 4-7, with possible additional clinics later in December. Parents will receive a message through AlertNow when dates are confirmed.

Agenda Item 10 – New Business, Agenda Items, Action Items

Ms. Mead reminded all to get out and vote during Election Day tomorrow. Polls open at 7:00 a.m.

Agenda Item 11 – Adjournment to Executive Session

At 8:20 pm, Ms. Mead moved and Mr. Brennan seconded to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations, not to return to open session.

Carried 5/0

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol S. Colena,
Recording Secretary