

Sutton School Committee
Sutton, Massachusetts 01590

The Sutton School Committee met in the Wally Johnson Meeting Room of the Sutton Municipal Center on Monday, February 28, 2011.

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

Administrators present at the meeting were Mr. Ted Friend, Superintendent.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Ms. Locurto called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Citizen Forum

No one wished to speak.

Agenda Item 3 – Consent Agenda

Mr. Brennan moved and Mr. Jerome seconded to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Carried 4/0

Agenda Item 4 – Third Reading and Adoption of Technology Policies in Section I

Mr. Jerome moved and Ms. Feifert Clark seconded to adopt as School Committee Policy the Technology Policies in Section I, as amended.

Carried 4/0

Agenda Item 5 – Third Reading and Adoption of Fuel Efficiency Policy EEBE

Ms. Feifert Clark moved and Mr. Jerome seconded to adopt as School Committee Policy the Fuel Efficiency Policy EEBE, as presented.

Carried 4/0

Agenda Item 6 – Second Reading of Policies JFBB through JRD

The Committee conducted a second reading of Section JFBB through JRD of the Policy Manual. Considerable discussion ensued, particularly related to the waiting list and the application deadline for School Choice, the appropriateness of breathalyzer testing of students, and the billing schedule for the annual school bus fee. The third reading of JFBB through JRD, including all changes, as discussed, will take place at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 7 – Second Reading of Policies K and L

This item was tabled at this time.

Agenda Item 8 – Superintendent’s Update

- The Early Learning Center and the Elementary School have just completed MAP testing and DIBBLES assessment; analysis of this data will help administrators make strategic decisions on curriculum development and instruction.
- PTO-sponsored Family BINGO Night took place on February 18th at the Elementary School. This event was rescheduled from an earlier postponement and as it occurred on the Friday before the vacation week, was not as well attended as hoped.
- Students in grades 3-10 will be taking the English Language Arts (ELA) portion of the MCAS in late March.
- The Middle School will be presenting the play “North Woods Nonsense” at 7 p.m. on March 11 and 12, and 2 p.m. on March 13. The price of admission will be discounted with a donation to the Food Pantry.
- ‘Harmony Week’ in the Middle School will take place during the week of March 21-25, with the Harmony Ball scheduled for March 25th.
- The 7th grade Long Composition will be on March 22nd.
- The first of three parent informational coffees will take place on March 16th at 6:30 p.m. The topics to be discussed will include the new schedule that will be adopted at the Middle School and placement of the portable classrooms. Parents of next year’s 5th-7th grade students are strongly encouraged to attend.
- The high school students on the Costa Rica trip are scheduled to return at 11:30 tonight.
- High School progress notes; grades have closed and notes will be issued on March 11th.
- The High School Community Service Learning Group (CSL) will be holding a yard sale from 9-2 at the Senior Center this weekend to sponsor the building of new food pantry.
- Members of the High School Student Council will be attending a conference on Cape Cod on March 9-11th.
- The Open Response requirement of the ELA (MCAS) for 10th graders will take place on March 22-24.
- The High School Drama Club put on a great performance of ‘The Taming of the Shrew’.
- Second Progress Notes will be going out for all Special Needs students at the end of this week.
- All preschool screenings have been conducted; the lottery drawing will be held this Friday, March 4th.
- Under Mr. Durgin’s leadership, the district is exploring possible technology changes in the future – there will be a presentation tomorrow by Apple, Inc. about electronic tablet technology (versus textbooks.)

- The district has begun implementing automated AlertNow messages to notify parents that their child is absent if a parent has not called the school to report an absence.
- Another technology initiative underway is to synchronize the various student information software systems so that they all contain the same information.
- The District is planning to run its own summer camp program under the umbrella of school system, beginning this summer; a brochure is in development with the goal of distribution before April vacation.

Agenda Item 9 – New Business, Agenda Items, Action Items

- Mr. Friend proposed including on every agenda, in parenthesis ‘Executive Session, as need’, to allow for a last minute addition.
- The School Committee is on the Agenda at the Finance Committee’s public hearing for the budget on March 10 at 6:30 in the Wally Johnson Meeting Room of the Sutton Municipal Center – all are invited to attend.

Agenda Item 10 – Adjournment

At 9:10 p.m. Mr. Jerome moved and Ms. Feifert Clark seconded to adjourn.

Carried 4/0

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol S. Colena
Recording Secretary