



Sutton School Committee

Sutton, Massachusetts 01590

The Sutton School Committee met in the Wally Johnson Room of the Sutton Municipal Center on MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2014.

School Committee Members present at the meeting were Liisa Locurto, Chair; Nate Jerome, Vice Chair; Kristen Feifert Clark, Secretary; Jesse Limanek, Esquire; and Paul Brennan.

Administrators present at the meeting were Theodore Friend, Superintendent and Susan Rothermich, Business Manager.

Student Representatives present at the meeting were Michael Coles and Olivia Robertson.

Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order

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

Agenda 2 – Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda 3 – Citizen Forum

No one present wished to speak.

Agenda Item 4 – Consent Agenda

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

Carried 4-0-1 (Feifert Clark)

Agenda Item 5 – Student Update

Fall sports are in full swing. Homecoming was this past weekend. Sutton did very well. The dance was a lot of fun. Pep rally and spirit week is all this week. Sutton golf team made DVC champs and hopes to get to the state this year. Seniors are applying to colleges. The new high school schedule is going well. It provides more time to get projects done; however, you have to pay attention to the schedule to ensure you prepare for the classes that you do have. In the beginning, it took a little bit more effort to manage time. The only downfall is trying to remember where you left off if you don't have class for a few days. CSL held ice bucket challenges and donations went to the Cheryl Alderman ALS fund. The new auditorium is spectacular; the lighting is impressive. Representatives from MMSI spoke to the students and informed them that students taking AP classes are less likely to fail or drop out of classes. Electives are manageable with minimal homework. They are more engaging and a lot is being learned. A suggested change to the school calendar was to have a two week vacation in March and do away with the February and April vacations. This would give students an opportunity to go away and enjoy a week vacation, but still have time to complete homework upon their return home.

Agenda Item 6 – FY15 Budget Update

Ms. Rothermich provided a review of the current budget.

Agenda Item 7 – Second Reading of Updated Policies re: Gender Identity

A second reading of the updated policies regarding gender identity was held.

Agenda Item 8 – First Reading of Student Absences and Excuses Policy

A first reading of the Student Absences and Excuses Policy was held.

Agenda Item 9 – First Reading of Student Discipline Policy

A first reading of the Student Discipline Policy was held.

Agenda Item 10 – First Reading of Student Complaints and Grievances Policy

A first reading of the Student Complaints and Grievances Policy was held.

Agenda Item 11 – First Reading of Student Conduct Policy

A first reading of the Student Conduct Policy was held.

Agenda Item 12 – Present Fee Structure for Facility Use

Ms. Rothermich reviewed the proposed fee structure for facility use, as well as the guidelines.

Mr. Limanek moved, and Ms. Feifert Clark seconded, to approve the Fee Structure for Facility Use as presented.

Carried 5-0

Agenda Item 13 – Discuss Options to School Calendar

Six options to the 2015-2016 school calendar were presented for discussion. It was decided to make changes to option 2 and discuss at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 14 – Superintendent’s Update

Mr. Friend provided copy of an article to members, which stated that the common core was not ever piloted. Parent conferences for Elementary students have already taken place. SEFT has a new group of volunteers that is trying to breathe life into this group. They are working diligently to raise money for educational activities not covered under the regular operational school budget. Please show your support by partaking in the Beer and Wine Fundraiser to be held on Saturday, October 11th. Child care for this event is being offered by the Girl Scouts at St. Mark’s Church.

Agenda Item 15 – New Business/Agenda Items/Action Items

None.

Agenda Item 16 – Adjournment to Executive Session

At 8:52 p.m., Mr. Jerome moved, and Ms. Feifert Clark seconded, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contractual issues with the Sutton Teachers Association.

Mr. Jerome, Yes
Mr. Brennan, Yes
Ms. Locurto, Yes
Ms. Feifert Clark, Yes
Mr. Limanek, Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Guillen
Recording Secretary