



Sutton School Committee

Sutton, Massachusetts 01590

The Sutton School Committee met in the Wally Johnson Room of the Sutton Municipal Center on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2016.

School Committee Members present at the meeting were Nate Jerome, Chair; Paul Brennan, Vice Chair; Bruce Edwards, Secretary; Peter Tufts; and Kristen Feifert Clark.

Administrators present at the meeting were Theodore Friend, Superintendent; Ted McCarthy, Principal of Sutton Memorial High School; Karen Terenzini, Director of Special Education; and Nancy Konisky, Business Manager.

Student Representatives present at the meeting were Michael Sherman and Madison Troy.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Mr. Jerome called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item 3 – Citizen Form

Chris Gramstorff, a parent, voiced two concerns: (1) that teachers are cautious not to push their own political agenda onto the students; and (2) that the School Committee review the rules in the Student Handbook so they do not disadvantage students. Specifically, he requested that the rules be written clear and that the words “major position” be defined.

Agenda Item 4 – Consent Agenda

Mr. Brennan moved, and Ms. Feifert Clark seconded, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Carried 5-0-0

Agenda Item 5 – Student Update

All fall sports teams made district; Grades for first quarter closed; Parent/teacher conferences will take place on Thursday; Homecoming and the pep rally were fun; Students attended a seminar on employability skills, which taught “soft skills” such as a firm handshake and eye contact. Students participated in a mock ballot presidential election and will receive the results tomorrow.

Agenda Item 6 – High School Update

Mr. McCarthy provided an update of the High School by means of a PowerPoint Presentation. The school store is currently running at a profit of \$500; new inventory includes sweatpants and beanie hats. The school newspaper is looking to have an online presence.

Agenda Item 7 – Special Education Update

Ms. Terenzini provided an overview of Special Education, which included the number of students on IEPs; the wide variety of programming, as well as the number of staff dedicated to special education. There is going to be a reorganization of the Sutton Special Education Parent Advisory Council. The first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 15th at 6:00 p.m. in the Elementary School library.

Agenda Item 8 – FY17 Budget Update

Ms. Konisky reviewed the budget and indicated that the line for substitute custodians is over budget. A vote for a budget transfer on this item will be taken at a later date when we have a definitive amount.

Agenda Item 9 – First Reading of Fiscal Accounting and Reporting Policy

There was a first reading of the Fiscal Accounting and Reporting Policy. Suggested changes to language were discussed.

Agenda Item 10 – Sutton Teachers Association’s Demand to Bargain Successor Contract

Sutton Teachers Association’s three year contract is up in June, 2017. STA provided the School Committee with a demand to bargain successor contract

Agenda Item 11 – Work Schedule for Custodians During July and August

The custodians’ pilot of a new work schedule during the months of July and August, wherein they opted to work four 10 hour days or five 8 hour days was successful.

Ms. Feifert Clark moved, and Mr. Edwards seconded, to approve the work schedule for custodians during July and August as presented.

Carried 5-0-0

Agenda Item 12 – Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative First Quarter Report

Mr. Friend reviewed the first quarter report of the Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative.

Agenda Item 13 – Superintendent’s Update

As of October, the state deficit is above projections and no 9C cuts will need to be made at this time. Mr. Friend will be attending a public hearing on Nov. 21st at Shrewsbury Middle School to discuss the new ESSA federal school funding law. The District Learning Team will be meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 29th at 6:00 p.m. The topic for this year is diversity. All are welcome to attend. Voting for the Presidential Election is tomorrow.

Agenda Item 14 – New Business/Agenda Items/Action Items

Student lunch balances will be placed as an agenda item for our next meeting on December 5, 2016. A reminder to the voting district that the location for Precinct One is at the Middle/High School.

Agenda Item 15 – Adjournment to Executive Session

At 8:52 p.m., Mr. Brennan moved, and Ms. Feifert Clark seconded, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Special Education and not reconvene in Open Session.

Mr. Tufts, Yes
Mr. Brennan, Yes
Mr. Jerome, Yes
Mr. Edwards, Yes
Ms. Feifert Clark, Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Guillen
Recording Secretary

Documents:

Agenda
Briefing Sheet
Minutes (10-24-16)
Bill Schedules (10-26-16; 09-22-16)
High School Update
FY17 Year-To-Date Budget Report
Fiscal Accounting and Reporting Policy (DI)
Letter from STA
SWCEC 1st Quarter Report