

December 9, 2002

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dennis M. Sullivan called a Long Range Planning Committee of the Whole Meeting of the School Committee to order in the superintendent's conference room at 181 Washington Street, at 5:30 p.m., for the consultants from New England School Development Council (NESDEC) to meet with the Somerville School Committee.

II. ROLL CALL

Present were Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Bauer, Ms. Harris, Ms. Murray, Ms. Rossetti, Mayor Gay (arrived 5:40 p.m.), and Ms. Taylor (arrived 5:40 p.m.).

Ms. Cardoso and Alderman White were absent.

Also present were Dr. Albert F. Argenziano, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Marie B. Ferrari, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Administration, Mr. Anthony C. Caliri, Human Resources Manager, Dr. Steven F. Jenkins, District Administrator for Student Services and four members of the audience. Members from NESDEC present were Dr. Edward J. Gotgart and Dr. Donald G. Kennedy.

III. School Committee Meeting with Consultants from New England School Development Council, completing the Comprehensive Study.

Chairman Sullivan called the meeting to order and advised that this Long Range Planning Committee meeting was scheduled for school committee members to meet with the consultants from New England School Development Council (NESDEC) who will be conducting the long range master planning for the Somerville Public Schools. Mr. Sullivan introduced Dr. Gotgart and Dr. Kennedy to school committee members, and then invited the gentlemen to give a presentation of the work proposal for our school system.

Dr. Gotgart began by giving general information about NESDEC. He talked about how the organization represents approximately 400 cities and towns in the Northeast offering services to school districts in four areas: Professional Development, Planning and Management, Executive Searching, and Research and Development. Dr. Gotgart, along with Dr. Kennedy explained how the planning and management functions work, specifically on long range planning. There are three phases. Phase I is the data-gathering phase and Dr. Kennedy advised that Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Argenziano, provided them with all the necessary information and materials needed. Phase II is developing two or more master plans to be reviewed at an open meeting with the School Committee and with the public. This meeting is held in order to receive input from the community. Phase III includes input from the Phase II meeting, evaluating options against criteria, prioritizing the options and then preparing a final report to be formally presented to the school committee. This project could be completed within a 45 day period, between now and January 24, 2003.

Following the presentation, discussion took place. Dr. Gotgart and Dr. Kennedy answered questions that school committee members asked and addressed any concerns they had.

Referring back to Phase II of the plan, Dr. Argenziano, with members in agreement, scheduled the public meeting, which will be held on Thursday evening, January 9, 2003 at 6:30 p.m. at the East Somerville Community School. Once Dr. Kennedy provides the Superintendent with dates and times, Dr. Argenziano will notify the schools regarding the visits from the NESDEC team.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m. by voice vote.

Dr. Albert F. Argenziano
Secretary