

Dear SED Parents,

I hope you are doing well! I am wishing for spring to come soon.

April vacation (April 14<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>) is approaching, and registration forms for the programs are available at your sites and on our website. We have some fun things planned! In addition, the applications for the 2017-18 school year have been mailed to your homes. Please return your application to the office by March 17<sup>th</sup> to ensure your space for next year.

I am writing with some important information. First, I'd like to clarify, to the extent that I can, information about how the Sudbury Public Schools budget process may potentially affect Sudbury Extended Day. Second, our current Treasurer, Jim Rao, is resigning after many years of service to SED. The Board is looking for a new Treasurer to begin in June 2017.

### SPS Budget

SED is a non-profit organization, run by a Board of Directors consisting of parents in our program. We have a budget that is close to breakeven each year. Small fluctuations in our business model can have a large impact on our fiscal health. For this reason, we are watching the SPS budget process very carefully. There are two main areas of focus. The first issue is the change in school hours. Loring School hours will be 8:55 to 3:25 in the 2017-18 school year. This is the same as the current school hours at the other three elementary schools. Therefore, the SED Board of Directors voted to change the SED hours to be the same as those at the other elementary schools, namely 7 – 8:55 am and 3:25 – 6:15 pm.

The current 5:30 pick up time at Loring is being discontinued, for equity among the elementary schools. It is important to note that the price for the 2:45 to 5:30 timeframe at Loring has been the same as the 3:25 – 6:15 timeframe at the other schools, and the same number of hours (2.75). Loring parents who currently have the 5:30 pick up time will not see an increase in afternoon tuition related to the change in hours (although there may still be our typical tuition increase of 2-5%).

Loring parents who use the morning program will be charged for the additional half hour (from 8:25 to 8:55) due to the school hours change. This is the same protocol that is in place at all other elementary programs. (As a reference, currently, a morning student at Loring 5 days per week pays \$188/month, while a morning student at the other three elementary schools 5 days per week pays \$253/month).

The dismissal time at the Curtis School is changing from 2:05 to 2:25. Therefore, SED's hours will be 2:25 to 6:15. The SED Board also voted to eliminate the 5:15 pick up at Curtis, given that the overall hours for the afternoon would be decreasing, and that utilization of the 5:15 pick up was a very small percentage of our Curtis families. As the Board looks to set tuition for the 2017-18 school year, this change in hours of service (both the increase for the current 5:15 families and the decrease for the current 6:15 families) will be taken into account.

The second issue is the building use fees. Last week, the School Committee discussed raising the fees for use of the school buildings after hours. The question was raised as to whether this increased fee would apply to SED, and the answer was yes. There has been no vote taken nor any increase levied of which I am aware. However, an increase in rent may negatively impact SED as tuition rates would need to increase to cover any additional cost. While I believe that the Sudbury Public Schools administration and the SPS School Committee members understand the value that SED provides to our community and to the working parents of Sudbury, I plan to emphasize the negative effect that increased rental fees will have on our families in any discussions I have with SPS.

Any SED parents who would like to be more informed about the business side of our organization, including the finances, budget, tuition and other organizational decisions, are always welcome to our Board Meetings. Meetings are open to all. The next Board Meeting is Tuesday, March 21 at First Parish at 7:30 pm.

### Treasurer

To shepherd SED into a new year, we are seeking a new Treasurer. We are sad to say good-bye to Jim Rao, who has served SED faithfully in this role for many years.

The Treasurer is an officer of SED and a member of SED's Board of Directors. The Treasurer works collaboratively with the Executive Director and Controller as well as other members of the Board to ensure the overall financial health of the organization. The time commitment for this volunteer position is not significant as it entails participating in monthly board meetings as well as other periodic meetings as required throughout the year. The duties of the Treasurer include, but are not limited to, assisting in the preparation of annual budgets and forecasts, reviewing financial results, overseeing the management of SED's capital reserves by a third party investment advisor and other financial matters that may come up from time to time during the year. This position is open to anyone who is a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in SED. While financial management experience is helpful, it is not required. If interested, please contact Suzie at 978-443-5829, or [director@sudburyextendedday.org](mailto:director@sudburyextendedday.org) and/or come to the next Board meeting on Tuesday March 21 at 7:30 p.m. at First Parish to learn more.

Thank you so much for your continued support of SED! Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or comments.