

Suffield Board of Education
Community Engagement & Public Relations Subcommittee
Central Office Conference Room
September 13, 2024
8:30 am

Minutes

Present:

Debra Dudack, Brian Fry, Gianna Rossi, Sam Toskin (via phone - arrived at 8:33 am), Maureen Sattan and Superintendent Matthew Dunbar

Absent: N/A

Subcommittee chair Debra Dudack called the meeting to order at 8:31 am.

Subcommittee members discussed the following items:

- **Development of strategic communications plan:** Subcommittee members discussed the possibility of developing a strategic communications plan in the future and plan to revisit the idea at a later date.
- **Suffield Middle School Building Project update:** Subcommittee members discussed next steps with the project, which include the Permanent Building Commission (PBC) touring Suffield Middle School on Thursday, September 26. The subcommittee discussed the roles the Board of Education and school district have in keeping the public informed about next steps with the project.
- **Discussion of empathy-building opportunities:** Superintendent Dunbar updated the subcommittee on different approaches, focused on empathy and kindness, that the district is considering to enhance social emotional learning at the middle school and high school. Subcommittee members also encouraged the district to engage in ongoing dialogue with faculty and students to enhance the culture at each school.
- **Community engagement through social media:** Subcommittee members discussed various options for sharing board- and district-related activities on social media and plan to continue this discussion during future meetings.

Sattan motioned and Fry seconded to adjourn the subcommittee meeting at 9:30 am.