

Suffield Board of Education
Community Engagement & Public Relations Subcommittee Special Meeting
October 6, 2026
4:00 p.m.
Central Office Conference Room

Minutes

Present:

Debra Dudack, James Mol, Maureen Sattan and Superintendent Matthew Dunbar

Absent: Dustin Rose, Greg Sparzo

Subcommittee Chair James Mol called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Subcommittee members discussed the following items:

- **Observer content schedule for 2026, including October Article**

Board members discussed the need for more articles on the “why” for the middle school project, while creating shorter or split-topic articles that can also continue to serve other important matters in the district. The November article was discussed, with a split of middle school and Effective School Solutions (ESS) programming as topics.

- **Communication Structure and Plan for the Suffield Middle School Building Project:**

Superintendent Dunbar provided an update on the current status of the Suffield Middle School project. Members raised questions about the communications black-out period in front of a referendum, which needs to be further investigated. This would guide the communications schedule for December through February. Agreed that we need to wait for the outcome of the tri-board meeting on October 15th 2026 to plan next steps.

- **School front signage:**

There is a need for improved signage in front of all K-8 schools, similar to the one of the high school, but given the uncertainty around the middle school it was decided to table this topic until after a middle school referendum. An option would be to only redo the Spaulding elementary school signage for now.

Adjournment: Subcommittee Chair Mol adjourned the meeting at 4:47 p.m.