# ATKINSON POOL

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Fri, Mar 21, 2025 at 10:44 AM
Subject: Article to publish
To: <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Please publish the attached article in the Sudbury Weekly.
I will
Also forward an image to go along with the article.
Thank you!
Lisa

**Strong, Transparent Leadership for Sudbury's Future**

*Lisa Kouchakdjian & Radha Gargeya for Select Board*

*"You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today."*

– Abraham Lincoln

**Dear Residents and Voters of Sudbury,**

This year's election is an opportunity to continue building a Select Board that is transparent, collaborative, and committed to serving the entire community. We bring a shared vision for Sudbury's future—one that prioritizes **responsible governance, fiscal discipline, and meaningful engagement with residents.**

We believe Select Board members must be **accountable to the public**, grounded in facts, and open to different perspectives. The role is not about advancing agendas or soundbites—it's about working in partnership with the community to solve real challenges thoughtfully and fairly.

**Transparency Is Leadership**

For us, transparency isn't just a campaign promise—it's how we lead. It means **sharing all available facts**, listening before deciding, and ensuring that residents are part of the process, even when there are disagreements. Transparency also means acknowledging when something goes wrong, taking responsibility, and working together to improve.

Unfortunately, when incomplete information or disinformation circulates, it divides our community and makes it harder to find common ground. **Real transparency builds trust.** That's what we're committed to delivering—during the campaign and in office.

Throughout this campaign, we've shared:

- ✔ Facts about our records of public service in education, finance, and governance
- ✔ Facts about Sudbury's budget and financial sustainability
- ✔ Facts about vocational education and opportunities for our students

We've welcomed questions, encouraged feedback, and taken time to speak with residents across town. That openness will continue if we are elected.

**Accountability Builds Trust**

To us, accountability means more than answering to voters—it means staying grounded in our values, acting with integrity, and treating others with respect. It means asking tough questions, following the data, and never using blame as a tool. We're here to build up our community, not weaken~~tear~~ it ~~down~~.

We are also accountable to our shared vision of Sudbury as a town that values **civil dialogue, responsible planning, and inclusive progress**. That's the kind of leadership we'll bring to the table.

**Who We Are**

**Lisa Kouchakdjian** is a current member of the Select Board and a former Chair of the Sudbury Public School Committee. Her leadership has focused on **transparency, communication, and fiscal responsibility**, including efforts to improve meeting efficiency and advance major community projects. Learn more about Lisa's experience and accomplishments on her campaign website.

**Radha Gargeya** is a longtime public servant and former Chair of the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School Committee. He brings a calm, collaborative style and a deep understanding of **financial oversight, infrastructure, and inter-district cooperation.** As Chair of the Sudbury 250 Committee, he's helped honor the town's history while planning for its future. Learn more about Radha's background online.

**Collaborative Leadership for a Stronger Sudbury**

We may not agree on every issue—but we do agree on **how we approach disagreements**: with respect, humility, and a focus on what's best for the community. If we disagree, it will be on policy—not personal. Our community benefits from a range of perspectives, and we welcome constructive debate.

Our vision for Sudbury is one where government listens, communicates clearly, and leads with purpose—not fear. We are prepared to face the town's challenges head-on, including:

• Managing growth in a way that reflects community values

• Protecting the high quality of services Sudbury residents expect

• Maintaining strong, well-funded schools

• Supporting seniors, families, and future generations

Together, we will make **informed, data-driven decisions** rooted in long-term thinking and community input.

**We Need Your Vote**

By voting for **both of us**, you're supporting leaders who respect facts, foster trust, and will work for the **entire community**~~**—not just those who already agree with us**~~**.** We are ready to lead with clarity, care, and a shared commitment to Sudbury's future.

**Commented [RG1]:** KM posted on 1S that he welcomes differences with respect. So, not give him an opening here.

Please stay engaged, ask questions, and most importantly—**vote on March 31**. Together, we can keep Sudbury moving forward with integrity and vision.

Warmly,

**Lisa Kouchakdjian & Radha Gargeya**

Candidates for Sudbury Select Board

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Wed, Mar 19, 2025 at 11:31 AM
Subject: Article to publish
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Attached please find an article and associated image to be published in the Sudbury Weekly. Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thanks!
Lisa

**“Investing in Sudbury’s Future: Support the Atkinson Pool Renovation!”**

The Atkinson Pool is a cherished community asset that has served Sudbury residents for decades. It is well-used, well-loved, and self-sustaining, generating significant revenue despite past shutdowns. Yet, it has been neglected since it was built, and now is the time to invest in its future—not demolish it. While I appreciate that Town staff will evaluate all options and that a demolition cost estimate is useful for decision-making, eliminating this vital resource is simply unacceptable.

**The Pool Strengthens Our Community**

Atkinson Pool is a cornerstone of our community, where generations of Sudbury residents have learned to swim. Each summer, campers in the Sudbury Summer Camp program eagerly anticipate their time in the pool, and throughout the year, residents of all ages rely on it for recreation, fitness, and overall well-being.

Learning how to swim also saves lives. As a community that already has this resource, we are fortunate to be able to provide affordable access to all residents. Safe communities are strong communities. We should not undervalue water safety.

**We Cannot Turn Our Backs on Student Athletes**

Our excellent swim teams rely on Atkinson Pool for practices and meets. They have achieved enormous success in recent years, often overcoming significant challenges due to the pool’s aging condition. Demolishing the pool would mean stripping them of a home facility and turning our backs on student-athletes who have proudly represented Sudbury.

**A Self-Sustaining Resource Worthy of Investment**

Despite decades of underinvestment, the Atkinson Pool still generates enough revenue to be self-sustaining—a clear indicator of its enduring value. Instead of considering demolition, we should see this moment as an opportunity for improvement—both in services and in the management of the pool itself.

If we expect the pool to operate like a business, then we must treat it like one—that means:

- Investment to upgrade and modernize the facility.
- Ongoing maintenance to prevent costly future repairs.
- Transparency through quarterly reports on revolving and enterprise funds.
- A proactive annual maintenance plan to ensure its long-term sustainability.

**Let's Build a Pool Sudbury Can Be Proud Of**

A renovated or reconstructed Atkinson Pool will attract even more users, boost membership and revenue, and secure its place in Sudbury's future. We have a responsibility to preserve and improve the resources that make Sudbury such a great place to live.

Let's invest in Atkinson Pool—not demolish it.

Let's make it a facility our town can be proud of for generations to come.

Lisa Kouchakdjian

[redacted]

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Fri, Feb 20, 2026 at 6:31 PM
Subject: Article
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>
Cc: Kevin LaHaise[redacted]

Kevin,  Hope all is well and that you've had a great week!! I saw your article about the State Rep race. In it you say that I "had not voiced intentions to pursue the seat prior to that statement". That's actually not accurate. Several years ago, I met with Carmine and told him that I wanted to run for his seat when he retires. Since then he has been positioning Ravi for the role. I would appreciate it if you would take that sentence out of your article. There are also other people in town who knew that I had interest in the State Rep seat.
Thanks so much and enjoy the rest of the week!!
Lisa

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Mon, Feb 24, 2025 at 5:04 PM
Subject: Campaign Questions
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Attached please find my responses to the Sudbury Weekly Questions. I am also attaching a photo to go along with the answers in the event we can submit a photo as well.
Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you!
Lisa

# Lisa Kouchakdjian, Candidate for Re-election to the Sudbury Select Board – Proven Leadership, Moving Sudbury Forward!

Serving on the Sudbury Select Board since 2022 has been one of the greatest honors of my life. I am deeply passionate about this community — our neighborhoods, our schools, and the people who make Sudbury such a vibrant and welcoming place to call home. As we approach this year's local election, the choices we make will have a lasting impact on our town's future, especially as national events continue to influence our daily lives.

I am committed to continue being the leader Sudbury needs: someone who listens with empathy, takes decisive action, and relentlessly advocates for our town's best interests. With a track record of thoughtful decision-making, collaborative leadership, and a clear vision for the future, I am dedicated to keeping Sudbury moving forward.

I am grateful to the Sudbury Weekly for the opportunity to share my goals and help residents make an informed choice. If you'd like to learn more about my campaign or get involved, please visit www.GoLisa.org and follow my Facebook page at facebook.com/golisa.org.

Together, we can build a thriving, inclusive, and resilient Sudbury. Your voice matters — and your vote counts on Monday, March 31!

1. **If elected, what would be your top three priorities?**

**Strategic Capital Planning for a Stronger Future**

The Select Board has directed the Town Manager to develop and implement a comprehensive capital plan, guided by the newly finalized *Facility Condition Assessment and Space Use Analysis*. This effort is my top priority because strong capital planning ensures that we prioritize critical projects, reduce wasteful spending, and prevent costly delays. With thoughtful long-term planning, we can invest in infrastructure and facilities that serve our community effectively and efficiently.

*Learn more about Article 27 Space Use and Facility Condition Assessment:* Facility Condition Assessment and Space Use Analysis.

**Addressing Staffing Shortages & Strengthening Town Operations**

Long-standing staffing shortages in Sudbury have strained town services, and we must act. The Select Board must provide strong leadership and support the Town Manager in efforts to attract and retain top talent, improve efficiency in town operations, and maximize revenue opportunities. A well-staffed, well-supported town workforce is essential to delivering the high-quality services that residents deserve.

**Fostering a More Inclusive and United Sudbury**

Sudbury should be a place where everyone feels welcomed, valued, and respected. As the primary policy-setting body, the Select Board must lead by example in fostering inclusive policies and practices. From my earliest days as a parent on the Special Education Parent Advisory Council to my years as a Sudbury School Committee member to my current role on the Select Board, I have consistently advocated for inclusion—regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, gender identity, or ability. At a time when divisions in our community are growing, we must proactively build bridges, promote understanding, and ensure that all residents have equitable access to town resources and opportunities.

If re-elected to the Select Board, I will continue to advance these values that define who we are as a community—a town that invests wisely, strengthens its foundation, and embraces progress, equity, and inclusion for all.

*Learn more about Sudbury's diversity and inclusion efforts:* Sudbury Stands Against Hate and the ADA Evaluation and Transition Plan.

2. **What's something a nearby municipality is doing that you think Sudbury should consider?**

I have been incredibly impressed by our friends and neighbors in Lincoln. Their community's resilience and dedication to education were on full display in their

successful effort to renovate the Lincoln Public Schools. Through hard work and collaboration, they celebrated the ribbon-cutting of their newly renovated Lincoln School just a couple of years ago—a true testament to a project that centered on their community values.

What stands out most is that the new building is net-zero, running entirely on electricity, meeting the highest standards of energy efficiency, and host to a 1.2 MW solar array. Not only does it provide students with innovative and modern learning spaces, but it also serves as a valuable community resource. The auditorium, for example, is used for town meetings and local events, reinforcing the school's role as a hub for civic engagement.

Lincoln's investment in education, sustainability, and community spaces is inspiring. While Sudbury does not currently have a similar project on the horizon, I hope that as we plan for our future, we take a similarly progressive and forward-thinking approach—one that prioritizes high-quality facilities, essential services, and strong sustainability practices.

*Watch this video to learn more about Lincoln's school project:* Lincoln School Project https://vimeo.com/808817773/efb34405db

3. **In 2022, the Sudbury Town Meeting declared a climate emergency requiring urgent action. With the benefit of hindsight, do you believe the Town has moved in the right direction on sustainability since Town Meeting in 2022? What would you change and/or keep the same?**

Yes! Sudbury is moving in the right direction on sustainability, and we are seeing real progress toward reducing our carbon footprint. A major step forward was the Town's commitment to hiring a dedicated Sustainability Coordinator, a position that plays a key role in securing grants, implementing green initiatives, and advancing our climate action goals. Our investment in this important position ensures we have the expertise and leadership to turn our sustainability commitments into action.

One of the Sustainability Coordinator's critical responsibilities is grant writing, which has already helped Sudbury secure funding for projects such as solar panel installations, electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, and energy-efficient

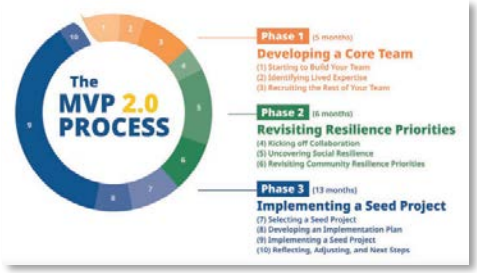
infrastructure upgrades. Another important partner in this work has been the Town's Combined Facilities Director, whose leadership has driven the expansion of solar energy use, the installation of additional EV charging stations, and other key sustainability efforts—all of which help generate revenue while advancing our environmental goals.

Additionally, the Energy and Sustainability Committee finalized Sudbury's Climate Mobilization Action Plan (CMAP) in 2023, which provides a roadmap for reducing emissions, improving energy efficiency, and strengthening climate resilience. In 2024, Sudbury also produced the Geographic Community-Scale and Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Report. This year, based on their recommendation, Town Meeting will consider adopting the Specialized Stretch Code, which would require new residential construction to be more energy-efficient and electric-ready—an important step toward a cleaner future.

We also continue to benefit from the work of Sustainable Sudbury and other local advocates, whose dedication helps drive community-wide awareness and action.

Moving forward, I am committed to building on this momentum. We must continue to prioritize funding, policies, and partnerships that advance sustainability, while also ensuring that our climate actions remain financially responsible and beneficial to the community. We owe it to future generations to reduce our carbon footprint, embrace clean energy, and make environmentally responsible choices at the local level.

Learn more about  grants that Sudbury has received related to this initiative: Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant and MVP Action Grant




**Grantee:** Sudbury
**Project Title:** Locally Grown Sudbury
**Award:** $92,500
Locally Grown Sudbury intends to improve the climate resilience, food security, and health equity of Sudbury's residents. This project will promote eating locally grown foods by hosting two (2) Sudbury Grown Fairs, and developing a Farmers Market and Food Security Action Plan to strategize holding similar events consistently in the future. To ensure that these nutritious foods are as accessible as possible, this project also aims to provide coupons to climate vulnerable households so that products sold at the fairs may be acquired at a free or reduced rate. Additionally, this project will implement a Climate Resilient Food Security Engagement Series in order to support local farms, educate the public on the overlap of climate change and food access, and provide tools and resources for residents to become more climate resilient and sustainable in their homes.

**4. How should Sudbury ensure it remains a welcoming and inclusive community for all residents, including transgender and gender-diverse people?**

Creating a truly welcoming and inclusive Sudbury will continue to be a top priority for me in my second term. As someone who has spent well over a decade advocating for people with disabilities, I understand that fostering inclusivity takes thoughtful, consistent action—not just words. I have a proven track record of building inclusion.

While a member of the Sudbury Commission on Disability (COD) we made progress to expand access in Sudbury. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan has improved the lives of people who live, work, and visit Sudbury. As a direct result of the COD's efforts, improving access is a regular discussion by many boards, committees, and commissions in Sudbury. Everyone in our community deserves to feel safe, valued, and respected, and that begins with strong leadership on the Select Board that makes it clear: hatred, discrimination, and intolerance of any kind have no place in Sudbury.

Right now, transgender and gender-diverse individuals are facing unprecedented attacks across the country, and the impacts of those harmful policies and rhetoric are being felt even here in Sudbury. It is our responsibility as local leaders to push back against discrimination and ensure that our town remains a place where people are embraced for who they are. That means enacting and upholding policies that explicitly protect trans and gender-diverse residents, visitors, and employees, while also fostering a culture of inclusion, respect, and belonging in all aspects of town life.

I believe our differences are our strength, and Sudbury must continue to reflect that in its policies, community programs, and leadership. We must come together as a community, put aside partisan divides, and stand up for each other—because a truly strong and welcoming Sudbury is one where everyone feels at home. Throughout my years of public service, I have worked tirelessly to make Sudbury a more inclusive place for all, and if re-elected, I will continue to advocate for policies that ensure our town is a model of inclusivity, equity, and respect.

**5. Should the Town use more of the operating budget to fund the Park and Recreation Department? Why or why not?**

Yes! Recreation is essential to Sudbury's vibrant community, and ensuring access to quality programs and facilities must be a priority. The dedicated Park and Recreation staff and the committed Park & Recreation Commission work tirelessly to serve residents, despite funding and staffing challenges.

Currently, the department receives only a small portion of the Town's general fund and relies heavily on program fees — a model that is becoming unsustainable due to rising costs and increasing demand. Staffing shortages further limit the ability to expand and improve services.

To maintain and enhance recreational opportunities, we must reevaluate Town funding and ensure the department has the resources it needs. This is particularly important as we look forward to the upcoming Open Space and Recreation Plan to further expand and improve recreational opportunities in Sudbury. At the same time, we should explore ways to boost revenue through expanded programming at the Fairbank Community Center, grants, and Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds, which have been vital for past projects.

Recreation is an investment in our well-being, quality of life, and the town's overall appeal. Residents deserve high-quality facilities and diverse programs that serve all ages and abilities. If re-elected, I will continue to champion a balanced, sustainable approach to funding that keeps Sudbury a place where everyone can thrive.

**6. The Town Manager has informed the Select Board about a possible need for an override in future fiscal years. How would you evaluate if an override was necessary or appropriate? What information would you seek out to make your determination?**

The possibility of an override is something I take very seriously, and I have discussed it extensively with Town Manager Andy Sheehan. One of the most significant achievements of my first term was working collaboratively with my

colleagues on the Select Board to hire Town Manager Sheehan, who has the expertise and fiscal discipline to help us navigate these challenging financial times.

Before considering an override, the Town must exhaust all available options to build efficiencies, control costs, and maximize revenue sources. Town Manager Sheehan has already begun this work by:

- Exploring regional partnerships, such as our participation in the Holbrook Regional Emergency Communications Center, which will streamline and improve dispatch services while controlling costs.
- Finding opportunities to increase revenue, including reviewing fee structures and identifying new funding sources.
- Prioritizing and addressing long-standing staffing shortages to ensure essential town services remain strong.

If an override becomes necessary, we must approach it with transparency, data-driven analysis, and a clear understanding of what is at stake. I would seek out:

1. A comprehensive financial assessment detailing why an override is needed, what services would be affected, and what alternative solutions have been explored.

2. Public input and feedback to ensure that residents fully understand the implications and have a voice in the decision.

3. Clear communication about how an override would impact taxpayers, town services, and long-term financial sustainability.

An override should never be the first solution, but if it is determined to be the best course of action, we must educate the community, build trust, and ensure a transparent process so that residents understand why it is necessary and how it will benefit Sudbury in the long run.

Ultimately, fiscal responsibility and long-term sustainability must guide our decisions. I am committed to ensuring that any discussions about an override are

handled thoughtfully, responsibly, and with the best interests of our entire community in mind.

7. **Cell service in Sudbury was deemed "marginal" by a Town consultant. What role should the Town play in improving Sudbury's cell service, given the consultant's findings?**

Cell service in Sudbury has been a longstanding challenge, and while steps have been taken to improve coverage, gaps remain. While we cherish Sudbury's wooded landscape, dense clusters of tall trees can interfere with signal strength — an issue that has become even more pressing as remote work continues to rise. Now is the time to take proactive measures to enhance service reliability for all residents.

Improving cell coverage is a priority for the Town Manager, with a goal approved by the Select Board. As outlined in the Select Board meeting packet (page 20), the Town Manager will work with the Planning Department to explore potential zoning amendments to support better coverage across Sudbury. Any recommendations will come before the Select Board for public discussion and consideration.

Investing in infrastructure improvements like enhanced cell service is essential to meeting the evolving needs of our community. Sudbury residents deserve reliable connectivity, and I am committed to supporting solutions that strengthen our town's infrastructure and keep us all connected.

*Learn more about Planning Board discussions related to wireless service here:* Planning Board - Meeting of April 23, 2023.

8. **Should the Town continue to operate a transfer station? Why or why not?**

The transfer station provides a valuable service to many Sudbury residents, but it is essential to evaluate its long-term sustainability and explore options for increased efficiency. The operational costs of the transfer station are significant, and maximizing cost-effectiveness must be a priority. One potential cost-saving measure would be to regionalize the transfer station to share operational costs, while reducing expenses. This regional approach could maintain service levels while optimizing efficiency.

At the same time, the Energy and Sustainability Committee has been discussing a transition to a single-hauler system for curbside waste collection. A single-hauler system could reduce the number of large waste trucks on Sudbury's roads, cutting emissions, reducing wear on roadways, and potentially lowering costs for residents.

Ultimately, the Select Board should seek a recommendation from Town Administration on the best course of action, considering:

- Financial sustainability—how can we reduce costs while maintaining service?
- Environmental impact—would a single-hauler system significantly reduce Sudbury's carbon footprint?
- Resident preferences—what system best meets the needs of those who rely on the transfer station versus those who prefer curbside pickup?

By taking a proactive, data-driven approach, the Town can make an informed decision that balances financial responsibility, environmental impact, and community needs.

**9. The Mass Municipal Association recently hosted a webinar about how towns can combat growing misinformation threats and challenges. What steps should Sudbury take to ensure residents have access to accurate, reliable information about local government activities and decisions?**

Misinformation and disinformation pose growing challenges for local governments, eroding trust and creating confusion. I recently watched the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) webinar on combatting

misinformation, which emphasized the importance of transparency, proactive communication, and community engagement.

Sudbury has already taken many positive steps to foster clear, reliable communication, including:

- Maintaining a centralized website and official Facebook page where residents can find accurate, up-to-date information.
- Holding public forums and office hours to provide direct engagement opportunities.
- Offering FlashVote to gather community input on important issues.
- Allowing public comment at Select Board meetings and ensuring Select Board members remain accessible to residents.

However, there is always room for improvement. The Town could enhance communication efforts by:

- Proactively addressing misinformation head-on—when false information spreads, providing an immediate and fact-based response.
- Expanding public education efforts on how residents can access accurate information and verify sources.
- Strengthening partnerships with community organizations and local media to ensure important messages reach all residents.

Building and maintaining trust in local government requires constant effort, transparency, and open dialogue. If re-elected, I will continue to advocate for expanding our communication efforts, increasing accessibility, and ensuring that all residents feel informed and engaged in the decisions that impact them.

**10. Can you share an example of an ethical dilemma you have faced in your personal or professional life? How did you handle it and what did you learn from your experience?**

Throughout my decade in public service, I have occasionally encountered situations where seeking guidance from the State Ethics Commission was the best

way to ensure I upheld the highest ethical standards. Massachusetts provides public officials with a valuable resource for navigating potential conflicts of interest, and I have always been proactive in using it to maintain transparency and public trust.

For example, during my time on the School Committee, I consulted the Ethics Commission and filed the necessary disclosures when decisions intersected with my children's education. Similarly, as a Select Board member, I have disclosed potential connections to my family's business to avoid even the appearance of impropriety.

These experiences have reinforced the importance of honesty, transparency, and seeking expert advice when needed. Ethical questions can arise in public service, but how we address them defines our leadership. By following the law, utilizing available resources, and always prioritizing the community's best interests, I strive to serve Sudbury with integrity and accountability.

For residents interested in learning more, ethics disclosures are public records available through the Town Clerk's office — an important aspect of the transparency that helps build and maintain trust in local government.

Thank you again to the Sudbury Weekly for the opportunity to provide answers to these important questions. In the event anyone has additional questions, I have several meet and greet opportunities in person and virtually where I am happy to engage with community members. https://golisa.org/meet-lisa Community members can also email me questions or request a campaign sign at Lisa@GoLisa.org I look forward to working very hard to earn our residents votes on March 31st!

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Wed, Apr 22, 2026 at 12:43 PM
Subject: Edited Voc Ed Opinion article
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Hi Kevin,  Attached please find a revised opinion piece that is 732 words. I ask that this version be published as an opinion article in The Weekly.
Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you!
Lisa

# “Vote Yes on Article 13 to Support Vocational Education at Annual Town Meeting May 4th-Help Bring Our Students and Families Home”

By Lisa Kouchakdjian

*I am the current Chair of the Sudbury Select Board and the opinions expressed in this article are my own and should not be attributed to any other member of the Select Board. The Select Board has voted to support Article 13.*

The Town of Sudbury’s relationship with Minuteman Vocational Technical High School (Minuteman) began in 1970. It was home for the students and families who attended. All that changed by a vote of our community at a Special Town Meeting on February 9, 2016. Special Town Meeting voted to leave Minuteman. Since that time, our students and families have been without a vocational education home.

No one could have predicted the dramatic increase in interest and desire for vocational education over the next several years. No one expected there would be so few seats available to non-member students.

At the time the Town moved away from Minuteman it was the Board of Selectmen’s desire to become a member of a vocational education district. It just never happened. Vocational education and investigating options for membership has been a high priority goal for the current Select Board. I have been incredibly impressed with the Select Board’s dedication and commitment to this work. The Board has stayed in consistent contact with the four major vocational education schools in closest proximity to Sudbury: Keefe Regional Technical School in Framingham, Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School in Marlborough, Nashoba Valley Technical High School in Westford and Minuteman High School in Lexington. All of these schools are excellent. I have visited each one of them and spoken with the wonderful administrators that run the schools. So far, the only school that has suggested possible membership is Minuteman.

To demonstrate our collective commitment to vocational education in Sudbury, the Select Board, with the support of our Town Manager, is offering an article at Annual Town Meeting on May 4th to establish a stabilization fund to dedicate funds and save money for the buy-in costs to become a member again of a vocational education school. The money could be used to re-join any vocational education school, not just Minuteman. Although we do not know yet the exact amount of the buy-in costs, the Town of Sudbury is in discussions with administrators at Minuteman to better understand those costs.

Why passage of Article 13 is important:

- To demonstrate our commitment as a community to vocational education
- To build trust again with member communities of vocational schools
- To save money for when the opportunity arises to re-join as a member
- To support the academic, vocational and social/emotional goals of All students

In the Select Board's recent communications with Minuteman, administrators have specifically stated how impressed they are with Sudbury's efforts to seek membership by offering this article at our Annual Town Meeting. Administrators of Minuteman have told us there are two other towns, in addition to Sudbury, seeking membership at Minuteman. Sudbury is the only community taking these steps. Passage of Article 13 will send a clear message that investment in vocational education in Sudbury is a top priority for our community.

Although last year seven students were admitted to Minuteman and this year, as of the writing of this article, seven students have applied, but not yet admitted, our students are not guaranteed admission to Minuteman because we are not a member. The only way moving forward that our students will be guaranteed admission is if we become a member. As wonderful as Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School is, some student's needs are best served in a vocational education setting.

I also would like to acknowledge our staff at Curtis Middle School who have been working hard to support students seeking vocational education. It has not been

easy for them to navigate the waters of uncertainty and to answer the difficult questions from families. Passage and support of Article 13 will benefit our teachers and staff working hard on the ground to support our students.

We need to make sure our students and families have a vocational education home in the future. The only way we can do that is if we earn membership. Come to Annual Town Meeting on May 4th to support Article 13 and help to move our relationship with vocational education forward!

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Mon, Mar 4, 2024 at 10:44 AM
Subject: Endorsement Letter
To: <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Attached please find an endorsement letter for submission to The Sudbury Weekly.
Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you!
Lisa

# Re-elect Janie Dretler to the Sudbury Select Board
# A Selfless Leader Who Honors Our Community

I have known Janie Dretler for several years. I originally met her in my capacity as a Sudbury School Committee member. During my two terms on the Sudbury School Committee, I had the opportunity to get to know Janie as she served our community as a Select Board member. Over the last two years, I have grown to know Janie even more, serving with her on our Select Board. Over the years, I had the opportunity to admire Janie from a distance. Now, I am honored to work alongside her to move Sudbury forward.

Simply put, Janie is exceptional at everything she does. Sudbury has benefited tremendously from her diligence and commitment to serve our community selflessly. She does her homework on every matter that comes before the Select Board. Janie values the important role she has as a public servant in Sudbury and recognizes every day that she serves at the pleasure of our community. It is for this reason that she listens to community members and values their perspectives on issues. She is thoughtful and compassionate in her leadership.

During this past year as Chair of the Select Board, Janie has made significant improvements to the overall function of the Select Board. She has focused the Select Board on its role and built processes that have improved the Select Board's effectiveness. Her agenda management has been wonderful. Agendas are focused on matters that are within the Select Board's purview. Meetings are significantly shorter. She has built a more functional, appropriate Select Board that this community deserves.

During her tenure on the Select Board, Janie has supported projects that will benefit our community for many years to come. She has been a tireless advocate of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. Janie's invaluable support of the project has helped to bring this incredible asset to our town. Because of her resilience and advocacy, our community members will benefit from the use of this resource for generations. As a community, we are already seeing the benefits of Janie's support and advocacy for the Fairbank Community Center project. Janie led the charge as our community came together and voted overwhelmingly in support of the new community center. Our community is now reaping the benefits of Janie's hard

work and enjoying the community center. Janie knows our community very well. She is a leader who has her ear to the ground. She knows the issues that concern our community and is also a strong supporter of public safety, conservation and sustainability.

As we move Sudbury forward, we need Janie's leadership on the Select Board. Our community will be making very important decisions over the next few years. We need Janie's experience, her calm and deliberate manner, and her commitment to listening to feedback from our community. Janie's selfless service is something that is not often seen today in public service. Let's take advantage of the opportunity to re-elect Janie. It is an honor to work with her. I look forward to Janie's continued leadership on the Select Board. Please join me in voting for Janie Dretler during our town election on March 25th.

Lisa Kouchakdjian
[redacted]

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Thu, Mar 7, 2024 at 9:34 AM
Subject: Endorsement LT
To: <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Attached please find an endorsement letter in support of the candidacy of Karyn Jones for Sudbury School Committee for publication in The Sudbury Weekly.  Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you!
Lisa

# Vote Karyn Jones for Sudbury School Committee

# The Advocate Our Students and Families Deserve

It is a pleasure to endorse the candidacy of Karyn Jones for Sudbury School Committee. I first met Karyn shortly after she and her family moved to Sudbury. Since that time, I have gotten to know Karyn very well. She and I have served together on the Sudbury Commission on Disability. I followed her lead as she spearheaded the first-ever highly successful Inclusive and Accessible Halloween in Sudbury. Because of her strong work ethic, Karyn brought joy and smiles to the faces of many young people and parents who ordinarily struggle during Halloween. I also witnessed Karyn's strengths as she brought another highly successful program to Sudbury: TOPSoccer.

As a former two-term Sudbury School Committee member who knows the role very well, I am confident that Karyn would be a tremendous asset to the Committee and our community. Besides the fact that Karyn already has substantive experience as a public servant familiar with open meeting law and how town committees function, Karyn possesses the foundational skills needed to hit the ground running on day one of her tenure.

Karyn has followed the work of the Sudbury School Committee since she moved to our community. She understands the role of a school committee member. She is also very knowledgeable regarding the school budget and values and appreciates the vital role policy plays in supporting our schools and students.

Not only has she followed the work of the School Committee, but she has also followed the work of other town boards and committees. I know Karyn to be a collaborative, cooperative, and engaging advocate. She knows how to build relationships with people in her advocacy. Karyn is extremely thorough and detail-oriented. She is methodical and understands the importance of planning. One example of the quality of Karyn's work is her recent advocacy for expanded after-school care. Karyn recognizes the importance of this issue for many of our families in Sudbury. Undaunted by the magnitude of work involved, Karyn undertook a project to survey the community to determine need. The incredible response to her survey and the resulting data will be an asset to our community as we move forward to address this important issue.

If elected to the Sudbury School Committee, Karyn will be a strong, much-needed advocate for our schools, students, and families. Since she has children in the schools, she is invested in our schools. She has a very strong understanding of what is happening in our schools and knows where we can do better. Not only will she be a hard worker on the School Committee, she will also be a voice that honors and respects our teachers. Karyn knows that our teachers are on the front lines of public education and that they need the resources and tools in their toolbox to support our students and families.

I am so very proud of Karyn and everything she has already accomplished for our community. She is strong and resilient. Even during tough times and difficult conversations, she is always engaging and positive. Karyn will lift our entire community and inspire us with her advocacy. It is an honor to be her friend, and if elected to the Sudbury School Committee, I cannot wait to see what she accomplishes. To learn more about Karyn and her campaign, please visit her website: jones4sudburyschools.com.

Please join me in voting for Karyn Jones for Sudbury School Committee on March 25th.

Lisa Kouchakdjian
Sudbury

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Tue, Mar 19, 2024 at 8:27 AM
Subject: Event submission
To: <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Kevin, Attached please find a pdf of an event our LS SEPAC is having in April. If possible, could this go into the events section of The Weekly?
Please let me know if you need any other information.
Thanks!!
Lisa

FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

# Basic Rights: Transition Planning

## A Free Virtual Workshop for Parents and Professionals

*This workshop provides an overview of the transition planning process for youth with disabilities ages 14-22 on IEPs.*

*Workshop Topics:*

- *What is Transition and Why is It*
- *Important Legal Basis for Transition Planning*
- *Student Vision, Self-Determination and Self-Advocacy*
- *Student and Parent's Roles*
- *Transition Planning Form (TPF)*
- *Age of Majority*
- *Timelines, Resources and more!*

About Your Host: The Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School SEPAC (LSSEPAC) is a positive and solution-oriented parent advisory council. We are a state-mandated group serving Boston, Lincoln, and Sudbury families with students with disabilities ages 14-22 years old. Our mission is to work collaboratively with parents/guardians and school officials to ensure that students' needs under Massachusetts Special Education laws and regulations are being met.

Host: Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School SEPAC
Lssepac.chair@gmail.com

Presenter: Clare Vann, Esquire
Clare.vann.esq@gmail.com

Date: 4/11/2024

Time: 7:00PM-9:00PM

Workshop Registration Link

**For more information about the educational workshops available from The Federation for Children with Special Needs, please visit us at fcsn.org/ptic/workshops or email: workshops@fcsn.org**

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Thu, Apr 23, 2026 at 10:42 AM
Subject: Event
To: <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

COASTAL COMMUNICATION

# Building Social Competencies for the Neurodivergent Student

- Understanding the Neurodivergent Brain
- Common Areas of Social Challenge
- The Power of Parents!
- Strategies for Home
  - friendship building, social communication, regulation, perspective taking
- Q&A

## Virtual Workshop: April 30th 7pm

---

**Shelby Bronfman M.S. CCC-SLP**

Kevin,  Could you please promote this event on the Sudbury Weekly events page? Below is the language I included in my social media posts:

Join our Sudbury and LS SEPACs for this upcoming event on Thursday, April 30th at 7:00 p.m. Oftentimes we focus solely on supporting the academic needs of our students. The social/emotional needs of our students are just as important, sometimes even more important! Attend this event to learn how parents can support the needs of their students. Below is the Zoom link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84143159105?pwd=TaU8oUDDXpWLJAvdpmb5Lns0p92A1o.1

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Wed, Mar 19, 2025 at 9:40 PM
Subject: Re: FW: Drobinski for Lisa
To: John Drobinski <john.drobinski@erm.com>
Cc: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

John, Thank you so very much for your endorsement! It means the world to me!
Hope to see you when you return to Sudbury!
Best regards,
Lisa

On Wed, Mar 19, 2025 at 8:44 PM John Drobinski <john.drobinski@erm.com> wrote:

> Hello Kevin.
>
> Could you please post this in The Sudbury  Weekly.
>
> Thanks for your excellent coverage of Sudbury news !!
>
> Cheers
>
> John

This e-mail and any attachments may contain proprietary, confidential and/or privileged information. No confidentiality or privilege is waived or lost by any transmission errors. This communication is intended solely for the intended recipient, and if you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately, delete it from your system and do not copy, distribute, disclose, or otherwise act upon any part of this email communication or its attachments. To find out how the ERM Group manages personal data please review our Privacy Policy

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Tue, Jul 2, 2024 at 9:23 PM
Subject: Gifts of Hope Unlimited
To: Diana Lannon <>, Kelly Finn <>
Cc: Marilyn Ellsworth <>, sudburyweekly@gmail.com <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Diana and Kelly, It was great visiting the Gifts of Hope warehouse last week! Thanks again to Marilyn for the tour of the facility and for sharing your emails. I am copying The Sudbury Weekly on this email as I suggested to Marilyn that it would be great to see if The Weekly would be interested in doing a story on the work you all are doing. You may consider reaching out to The Weekly to see if there is interest. The Weekly has become a wonderful resource for our community and an article would help to promote your mission!
Best of luck and thank you for all you are doing!
Warmest regards,
Lisa

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Sun, Mar 23, 2025 at 4:31 PM
Subject: Image for article
To: <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

# LISA KOUCHAK

A Proven Track Record of
Expanded and Inclusive After
for Sudbury Famili

# SELECT BOA

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Mon, Jan 22, 2024 at 10:44 AM
Subject: Fwd: Lincoln-Sudbury and Sudbury SEPAC Workshop
To: sudburyweekly@gmail.com <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Kevin,  Attached is promotional info for another event we have coming up. It is a great event that is always very well attended. EF issues really touch every student so all families are welcome to attend this event!
Thanks for considering putting this on your events page and the newsletter!
Lisa

Lincoln-Sudbury SEPAC

Sudbury SEPAC

## LS SEPAC and Sudbury SEPAC present:

ENGAGING MINDS

Tools for Learning. Skills for Life.

Webinar

# Executive Function Strategies for Creating Successful Students

**Thursday, February 8, 2024 • 7:00 pm**

Initiating Tasks

Planning & Time Management

Flexibility & Transitions

Working Memory

tion & dence

Organization of Materials

Self-Monitoring & Follow Through

Executive function skills have become increasingly important for students of all ages over the past several years. Join Engaging Minds to learn more about executive function and the skills it encompasses and gain actionable strategies to use at home to help strengthen these important skills. In an ever-changing world where more is being asked of our students, this webinar will help parents and caregivers keep their students on a successful path for this school year and beyond.

**REGISTER HERE**

www.engagingmindsonline.com

188 Needham Street, Newton, MA 617-964-3100
info@engagingmindsonline.com

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Tue, Apr 29, 2025 at 7:55 AM
Subject: Fwd: Link for SEPAC Presentation Basic Rights:Transition Planning - Thursday, May 8, 2025 7:00 PM
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Morning! Below is an upcoming LS SEPAC event which we offer annually. If possible, could we please include this in upcoming events in the Sudbury Weekly?? I believe the link in the attached works, but you may just want to confirm. Thanks for considering!!
Lisa

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Mantey, Karen** <>
Date: Tue, Apr 29, 2025 at 7:32 AM
Subject: Link for SEPAC Presentation Basic Rights:Transition Planning - Thursday, May 8, 2025 7:00 PM
To: <>

Good Morning,

It has been brought to my attention that the link I provided in the body of the email yesterday to register for the SEPAC Presentation: Basic Rights Transition Planning does not work. Please try this link or use the link that is provided in the attached flyer.

FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

# Basic Rights: Transition Planning

## A Free Virtual Workshop for Parents and Professionals

*This workshop provides an overview of the transition planning process for youth with disabilities ages 14-22 on IEPs.*

*Workshop Topics:*

- *What is Transition and Why is It Important*
- *Legal Basis for Transition Planning*
- *Student Vision, Self-Determination and Self-Advocacy*
- *Student and Parent's Roles*
- *Transition Planning Form (TPF)*
- *Age of Majority*
- *Timelines, Resources and more!*

## About Your Host:

The Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School SEPAC (LSSEPAC) is a positive and solution-oriented parent advisory council. We are a state-mandated PAC serving families in the district with disabilities ages 14-22 year old, or upon graduation, whichever comes first. We also act as a resource for parents/guardians and the community to establish a better understanding of, respect for, and support of students with disabilities.

Our mission is to work collaboratively with parents/guardians and school officials to ensure that students' needs under Massachusetts Special Education laws and regulations are being met.

**Date:** Thursday, May 8, 2025

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Registration Link:**

https://fcsn.org/event/lincoln-sudbury-transition-planning/

**For more information about the educational workshops available from The Federation for Children with Special Needs, please visit us at fcsn.org/ptic/workshops or email: workshops@fcsn.org**

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Wed, Feb 11, 2026 at 3:20 PM
Subject: LS/SPS SEPAC Event
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Hi Kevin,  Hope all is well.  Attached please find promotional material for an event coming up. We were wondering if you could promote it in the Weekly? Thanks!!
Lisa

*Lincoln Sudbury SEPAC and Sudbury SEPAC presents:*

# Helping Kids Get It Done:

## Beat Procrastination, Master Time, Study Smarter and Succeed in School

**Tuesday, March 24, 2026 • 7:00 pm**

Putting things off is easy — getting started is hard. In this complimentary webinar, parents will learn practical executive function strategies to help kids beat procrastination, manage their time, stay focused, and tackle homework with confidence. You'll walk away with tools to support academic success and make schoolwork feel more manageable at home.

- Initiating Tasks
- Planning & Time Management
- Flexibility & Transitions
- Working Memory
- Organization of Ideas
- Motivation & Self Confidence
- Organization of Materials

ENGAGING MINDS

Tools for Learning. Skills for Life.

188 Needham Street
Newton, MA
617-964-3100
info@engagingmindsonline.com

www.engagingmindsonline.com

REGISTER HERE

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Fri, Feb 13, 2026 at 10:38 AM
Subject: LS/Sudbury SEPAC Event
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Hi Kevin,  Hope all is well.  Would it be possible to put this event on the Sudbury Weekly website under events, and include it in the newsletter?
Attached is the promo.
Here is also the language you could include. It is the same language as our Facebook posts:
The LS and Sudbury SEPACs are collaborating to bring this virtual event "Building A World Without Stigma" to our community on Thursday, February 26th at 7:00 p.m. This event is free and open to everyone! Our speaker is Dr. Eavan Miles-Mason, founder of Kid CenterEd. Let's come together and learn how we can eliminate stigma!
The link to join this event is here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89738507801?pwd=2oQgM9Ffz3aQk8Jfc2BLEoWDCntMbQ.1

**Thursday, February 26**
**7PM | Virtual**

# Building A World Without Stigma: Supporting our Students who are Neurodiverse and Their Families

## Our Speaker

Dr. Eavan Miles-Mason is the founder of Kid CenterEd, an educational support center for families and students with learning disabilities. She will discuss:

- The impact of the different dimensions of stigma within family, school, and societal systems
- Consequences for students with neurodiversity and their social support networks
- Interventions to support students and their families

Sudbury SEPAC

Lincoln-Sudbury SEPAC

## Frank, Leila

**From:** Lisa Kouchakdjian[redacted]
**Sent:** Wednesday, July
**To:** Frank, Leila
**Subject:** Fwd: MCAS Event
**Attachments:** MCAS WS Flyer (3).pdf

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Fri, Jan 5, 2024 at 2:50 PM
Subject: MCAS Event
To: <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Hi Kevin! Attached please find the PDF for the MCAS event the LS and Sudbury SEPACs are offering to our community! You also likely know that in the Fall we will be voting in the Commonwealth on legislation that would eliminate the graduation requirement that students pass the 10th grade MCAS. Let me know if you would like me to forward information Ravi sent me on this issue if you would like to do a boader story on the matter.
It would be great if you could publicize the event in the Weekly for us though!
Thanks for considering!!
Lisa

# MCAS: Access & Acheivement for Students with Disabilities

## A Free Virtual Workshop for Parents and Professionals

FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Introduces the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) and how children with disabilities can participate in meaningful ways in MCAS.

*Workshop Topics:*

- *Standards Based Education*
- *MCAS 2.0 for the 21st Century*
- *Different Ways to Test ELL Students & MCAS*
- *Parent/Guardian Report*
- *Diploma Requirements*
- *Options for Success and more!*

## About Your Host:

The Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School SEPAC (LSSEPAC) is a positive and solution-oriented parent advisory council. We are a state-mandated group serving Boston, Lincoln, and Sudbury families with students with disabilities ages 14-22 years old. Our mission is to work collaboratively with parents/guardians and school officials to ensure that students' needs under Massachusetts Special Education laws and regulations are being met.

Presenter: Elaine Rabbitt, (508) 248-3665, emrparentservices508@gmail.com

Date: 1/25/24

Time: 7:00-9:00PM

Registration Link:

https://fcsn-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkc-mhpzstGdT06P5yerh3cJfqTYqFLFaU

**For more information about the educational workshops available from The Federation for Children with Special Needs, please visit us at fcsn.org/ptic/workshops or email: workshops@fcsn.org**

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Fri, Jan 5, 2024 at 3:04 PM
Subject: Fwd: MCAS
To: <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

This is the information that Ravi sent me.
Lisa

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Ravi Simon** <>
Date: Sun, Nov 26, 2023 at 12:59 PM
Subject: Re: MCAS
To: Lisa Kouchakdjian[redacted]

Hi Lisa,

Great seeing you too! I've attached the filing with the AGs office which shows the language that would be on the ballot, and a summary of what it does. I don't know if they have collected over 75k signatures yet but since the MTA is backing it, and the proposal seems fairly popular, I would imagine they will get the signatures in time.

Thanks,
Ravi

On Sun, Nov 26, 2023 at 11:38 AM Lisa Kouchakdjian[redacted]wrote:

> HI Ravi, Great seeing you the other day! Just as a follow up to our conversation on the MCAS matter..do you have anything in writing that you can provide on the substance of what everyone will be voting on in the Fall?
> Thanks!!
> Lisa

## INITIATIVE PETITION FOR A LAW

*Be it enacted by the People, and by their authority:*

**A LAW REQUIRING THAT DISTRICTS CERTIFY THAT STUDENTS HAVE MASTERED THE SKILLS, COMPETENCIES AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE STATE STANDARDS AS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE MCAS GRADUATION REQUIREMENT.**

> Section 1D of chapter 69 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking from the first sentence of sub-paragraph (i) the words, ", as measured by the assessment instruments described in section one I." and replacing them with the following: "by satisfactorily completing coursework that has been certified by the student's district as showing mastery of the skills, competencies, and knowledge contained in the state academic standards and curriculum frameworks in the areas measured by the MCAS high school tests described in section one I administered in 2023, and in any additional areas determined by the board."

*The undersigned qualified voters of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have personally reviewed the final text of this initiative petition, fully subscribe to its contents, agree to be one of its original signers and have signaled that agreement by signing below, and hereby submit the measure for approval by the people pursuant to Article 48 of the articles of amendment of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as amended by Article 74 of said articles of amendment.*

1. Deborah T. McCarthy
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
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10. _____
11. _____
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13. _____
14. _____
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18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

## SUMMARY OF NO. 23-36

This proposed law would eliminate the requirement that a student pass the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests (or other statewide or district-wide assessments) in mathematics, science and technology, and English in order to receive a high school diploma. Instead, in order for a student to receive a high school diploma, the proposed law would require the student to complete coursework certified by the student's district as demonstrating mastery of the competencies contained in the state academic standards in mathematics, science and technology, and English, as well as any additional areas determined by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Tue, Feb 25, 2025 at 9:48 AM
Subject: One Change
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Kevin,  I made a change in paragraph two of my answer to question 3, the question on sustainability. Can I re-submit my submission with that change?
Thanks!
Lisa

# Lisa Kouchakdjian, Candidate for Re-election to the Sudbury Select Board – Proven Leadership, Moving Sudbury Forward!

Serving on the Sudbury Select Board since 2022 has been one of the greatest honors of my life. I am deeply passionate about this community — our neighborhoods, our schools, and the people who make Sudbury such a vibrant and welcoming place to call home. As we approach this year's local election, the choices we make will have a lasting impact on our town's future, especially as national events continue to influence our daily lives.

I am committed to continue being the leader Sudbury needs: someone who listens with empathy, takes decisive action, and relentlessly advocates for our town's best interests. With a track record of thoughtful decision-making, collaborative leadership, and a clear vision for the future, I am dedicated to keeping Sudbury moving forward.

I am grateful to the Sudbury Weekly for the opportunity to share my goals and help residents make an informed choice. If you'd like to learn more about my campaign or get involved, please visit www.GoLisa.org and follow my Facebook page at facebook.com/golisa.org.

Together, we can build a thriving, inclusive, and resilient Sudbury. Your voice matters — and your vote counts on Monday, March 31!

1. **If elected, what would be your top three priorities?**

**Strategic Capital Planning for a Stronger Future**

The Select Board has directed the Town Manager to develop and implement a comprehensive capital plan, guided by the newly finalized *Facility Condition Assessment and Space Use Analysis*. This effort is my top priority because strong capital planning ensures that we prioritize critical projects, reduce wasteful spending, and prevent costly delays. With thoughtful long-term planning, we can invest in infrastructure and facilities that serve our community effectively and efficiently.

*Learn more about Article 27 Space Use and Facility Condition Assessment:* Facility Condition Assessment and Space Use Analysis.

**Addressing Staffing Shortages & Strengthening Town Operations**

Long-standing staffing shortages in Sudbury have strained town services, and we must act. The Select Board must provide strong leadership and support the Town Manager in efforts to attract and retain top talent, improve efficiency in town operations, and maximize revenue opportunities. A well-staffed, well-supported town workforce is essential to delivering the high-quality services that residents deserve.

**Fostering a More Inclusive and United Sudbury**

Sudbury should be a place where everyone feels welcomed, valued, and respected. As the primary policy-setting body, the Select Board must lead by example in fostering inclusive policies and practices. From my earliest days as a parent on the Special Education Parent Advisory Council to my years as a Sudbury School Committee member to my current role on the Select Board, I have consistently advocated for inclusion—regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, gender identity, or ability. At a time when divisions in our community are growing, we must proactively build bridges, promote understanding, and ensure that all residents have equitable access to town resources and opportunities.

If re-elected to the Select Board, I will continue to advance these values that define who we are as a community—a town that invests wisely, strengthens its foundation, and embraces progress, equity, and inclusion for all.

*Learn more about Sudbury's diversity and inclusion efforts:* Sudbury Stands Against Hate and the ADA Evaluation and Transition Plan.

2. **What's something a nearby municipality is doing that you think Sudbury should consider?**

I have been incredibly impressed by our friends and neighbors in Lincoln. Their community's resilience and dedication to education were on full display in their

successful effort to renovate the Lincoln Public Schools. Through hard work and collaboration, they celebrated the ribbon-cutting of their newly renovated Lincoln School just a couple of years ago—a true testament to a project that centered on their community values.

What stands out most is that the new building is net-zero, running entirely on electricity, meeting the highest standards of energy efficiency, and host to a 1.2 MW solar array. Not only does it provide students with innovative and modern learning spaces, but it also serves as a valuable community resource. The auditorium, for example, is used for town meetings and local events, reinforcing the school's role as a hub for civic engagement.

Lincoln's investment in education, sustainability, and community spaces is inspiring. While Sudbury does not currently have a similar project on the horizon, I hope that as we plan for our future, we take a similarly progressive and forward-thinking approach—one that prioritizes high-quality facilities, essential services, and strong sustainability practices.

*Watch this video to learn more about Lincoln's school project:* Lincoln School Project https://vimeo.com/808817773/efb34405db

3. **In 2022, the Sudbury Town Meeting declared a climate emergency requiring urgent action. With the benefit of hindsight, do you believe the Town has moved in the right direction on sustainability since Town Meeting in 2022? What would you change and/or keep the same?**

Yes! Sudbury is moving in the right direction on sustainability, and we are seeing real progress toward reducing our carbon footprint. A major step forward was the Town's commitment to hiring a dedicated Sustainability Coordinator, a position that plays a key role in securing grants, implementing green initiatives, and advancing our climate action goals. Our investment in this important position ensures we have the expertise and leadership to turn our sustainability commitments into action.

One of the Sustainability Coordinator's critical responsibilities is grant writing, which has already helped Sudbury secure funding for projects. Another important partner in this work has been the Town's Combined Facilities Director, whose

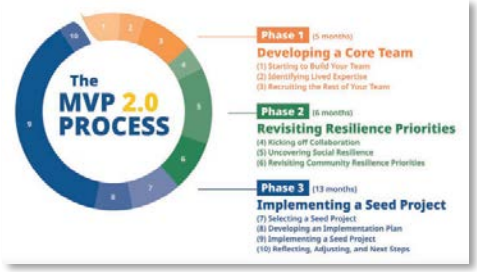
leadership has driven the expansion of solar energy use, the installation of additional EV charging stations, and other key sustainability efforts—all of which help generate revenue while advancing our environmental goals.

Additionally, the Energy and Sustainability Committee finalized Sudbury's Climate Mobilization Action Plan (CMAP) in 2023, which provides a roadmap for reducing emissions, improving energy efficiency, and strengthening climate resilience. In 2024, Sudbury also produced the Geographic Community-Scale and Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Report. This year, based on their recommendation, Town Meeting will consider adopting the Specialized Stretch Code, which would require new residential construction to be more energy-efficient and electric-ready—an important step toward a cleaner future.

We also continue to benefit from the work of Sustainable Sudbury and other local advocates, whose dedication helps drive community-wide awareness and action.

Moving forward, I am committed to building on this momentum. We must continue to prioritize funding, policies, and partnerships that advance sustainability, while also ensuring that our climate actions remain financially responsible and beneficial to the community. We owe it to future generations to reduce our carbon footprint, embrace clean energy, and make environmentally responsible choices at the local level.

Learn more about  grants that Sudbury has received related to this initiative: Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant and MVP Action Grant




**Grantee:** Sudbury
**Project Title:** Locally Grown Sudbury
**Award:** $92,500
Locally Grown Sudbury intends to improve the climate resilience, food security, and health equity of Sudbury's residents. This project will promote eating locally grown foods by hosting two (2) Sudbury Grown Fairs, and developing a Farmers Market and Food Security Action Plan to strategize holding similar events consistently in the future. To ensure that these nutritious foods are as accessible as possible, this project also aims to provide coupons to climate vulnerable households so that products sold at the fairs may be acquired at a free or reduced rate. Additionally, this project will implement a Climate Resilient Food Security Engagement Series in order to support local farms, educate the public on the overlap of climate change and food access, and provide tools and resources for residents to become more climate resilient and sustainable in their homes.

**4. How should Sudbury ensure it remains a welcoming and inclusive community for all residents, including transgender and gender-diverse people?**

Creating a truly welcoming and inclusive Sudbury will continue to be a top priority for me in my second term. As someone who has spent well over a decade advocating for people with disabilities, I understand that fostering inclusivity takes thoughtful, consistent action—not just words. I have a proven track record of building inclusion.

While a member of the Sudbury Commission on Disability (COD) we made progress to expand access in Sudbury. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan has improved the lives of people who live, work, and visit Sudbury. As a direct result of the COD's efforts, improving access is a regular discussion by many boards, committees, and commissions in Sudbury. Everyone in our community deserves to feel safe, valued, and respected, and that begins with strong leadership on the Select Board that makes it clear: hatred, discrimination, and intolerance of any kind have no place in Sudbury.

Right now, transgender and gender-diverse individuals are facing unprecedented attacks across the country, and the impacts of those harmful policies and rhetoric are being felt even here in Sudbury. It is our responsibility as local leaders to push back against discrimination and ensure that our town remains a place where people are embraced for who they are. That means enacting and upholding policies that explicitly protect trans and gender-diverse residents, visitors, and employees, while also fostering a culture of inclusion, respect, and belonging in all aspects of town life.

I believe our differences are our strength, and Sudbury must continue to reflect that in its policies, community programs, and leadership. We must come together as a community, put aside partisan divides, and stand up for each other—because a truly strong and welcoming Sudbury is one where everyone feels at home. Throughout my years of public service, I have worked tirelessly to make Sudbury a more inclusive place for all, and if re-elected, I will continue to advocate for policies that ensure our town is a model of inclusivity, equity, and respect.

**5. Should the Town use more of the operating budget to fund the Park and Recreation Department? Why or why not?**

Yes! Recreation is essential to Sudbury's vibrant community, and ensuring access to quality programs and facilities must be a priority. The dedicated Park and Recreation staff and the committed Park & Recreation Commission work tirelessly to serve residents, despite funding and staffing challenges.

Currently, the department receives only a small portion of the Town's general fund and relies heavily on program fees — a model that is becoming unsustainable due to rising costs and increasing demand. Staffing shortages further limit the ability to expand and improve services.

To maintain and enhance recreational opportunities, we must reevaluate Town funding and ensure the department has the resources it needs. This is particularly important as we look forward to the upcoming Open Space and Recreation Plan to further expand and improve recreational opportunities in Sudbury. At the same time, we should explore ways to boost revenue through expanded programming at the Fairbank Community Center, grants, and Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds, which have been vital for past projects.

Recreation is an investment in our well-being, quality of life, and the town's overall appeal. Residents deserve high-quality facilities and diverse programs that serve all ages and abilities. If re-elected, I will continue to champion a balanced, sustainable approach to funding that keeps Sudbury a place where everyone can thrive.

**6. The Town Manager has informed the Select Board about a possible need for an override in future fiscal years. How would you evaluate if an override was necessary or appropriate? What information would you seek out to make your determination?**

The possibility of an override is something I take very seriously, and I have discussed it extensively with Town Manager Andy Sheehan. One of the most significant achievements of my first term was working collaboratively with my colleagues on the Select Board to hire Town Manager Sheehan, who has the expertise and fiscal discipline to help us navigate these challenging financial times.

Before considering an override, the Town must exhaust all available options to build efficiencies, control costs, and maximize revenue sources. Town Manager Sheehan has already begun this work by:

- Exploring regional partnerships, such as our participation in the Holbrook Regional Emergency Communications Center, which will streamline and improve dispatch services while controlling costs.
- Finding opportunities to increase revenue, including reviewing fee structures and identifying new funding sources.
- Prioritizing and addressing long-standing staffing shortages to ensure essential town services remain strong.

If an override becomes necessary, we must approach it with transparency, data-driven analysis, and a clear understanding of what is at stake. I would seek out:

1. A comprehensive financial assessment detailing why an override is needed, what services would be affected, and what alternative solutions have been explored.

2. Public input and feedback to ensure that residents fully understand the implications and have a voice in the decision.

3. Clear communication about how an override would impact taxpayers, town services, and long-term financial sustainability.

An override should never be the first solution, but if it is determined to be the best course of action, we must educate the community, build trust, and ensure a transparent process so that residents understand why it is necessary and how it will benefit Sudbury in the long run.

Ultimately, fiscal responsibility and long-term sustainability must guide our decisions. I am committed to ensuring that any discussions about an override are handled thoughtfully, responsibly, and with the best interests of our entire community in mind.

7. **Cell service in Sudbury was deemed "marginal" by a Town consultant. What role should the Town play in improving Sudbury's cell service, given the consultant's findings?**

Cell service in Sudbury has been a longstanding challenge, and while steps have been taken to improve coverage, gaps remain. While we cherish Sudbury's wooded landscape, dense clusters of tall trees can interfere with signal strength — an issue that has become even more pressing as remote work continues to rise. Now is the time to take proactive measures to enhance service reliability for all residents.

Improving cell coverage is a priority for the Town Manager, with a goal approved by the Select Board. As outlined in the Select Board meeting packet (page 20), the Town Manager will work with the Planning Department to explore potential zoning amendments to support better coverage across Sudbury. Any recommendations will come before the Select Board for public discussion and consideration.

Investing in infrastructure improvements like enhanced cell service is essential to meeting the evolving needs of our community. Sudbury residents deserve reliable connectivity, and I am committed to supporting solutions that strengthen our town's infrastructure and keep us all connected.

*Learn more about Planning Board discussions related to wireless service here:* Planning Board - Meeting of April 23, 2023.

8. **Should the Town continue to operate a transfer station? Why or why not?**

The transfer station provides a valuable service to many Sudbury residents, but it is essential to evaluate its long-term sustainability and explore options for increased efficiency. The operational costs of the transfer station are significant, and maximizing cost-effectiveness must be a priority. One potential cost-saving measure would be to regionalize the transfer station to share operational costs,

while reducing expenses. This regional approach could maintain service levels while optimizing efficiency.

At the same time, the Energy and Sustainability Committee has been discussing a transition to a single-hauler system for curbside waste collection. A single-hauler system could reduce the number of large waste trucks on Sudbury's roads, cutting emissions, reducing wear on roadways, and potentially lowering costs for residents.

Ultimately, the Select Board should seek a recommendation from Town Administration on the best course of action, considering:

- Financial sustainability—how can we reduce costs while maintaining service?
- Environmental impact—would a single-hauler system significantly reduce Sudbury's carbon footprint?
- Resident preferences—what system best meets the needs of those who rely on the transfer station versus those who prefer curbside pickup?

By taking a proactive, data-driven approach, the Town can make an informed decision that balances financial responsibility, environmental impact, and community needs.

**9. The Mass Municipal Association recently hosted a webinar about how towns can combat growing misinformation threats and challenges. What steps should Sudbury take to ensure residents have access to accurate, reliable information about local government activities and decisions?**

Misinformation and disinformation pose growing challenges for local governments, eroding trust and creating confusion. I recently watched the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) webinar on combatting misinformation, which emphasized the importance of transparency, proactive communication, and community engagement.

Sudbury has already taken many positive steps to foster clear, reliable communication, including:

- Maintaining a centralized website and official Facebook page where residents can find accurate, up-to-date information.
- Holding public forums and office hours to provide direct engagement opportunities.
- Offering FlashVote to gather community input on important issues.
- Allowing public comment at Select Board meetings and ensuring Select Board members remain accessible to residents.

However, there is always room for improvement. The Town could enhance communication efforts by:

- Proactively addressing misinformation head-on—when false information spreads, providing an immediate and fact-based response.
- Expanding public education efforts on how residents can access accurate information and verify sources.
- Strengthening partnerships with community organizations and local media to ensure important messages reach all residents.

Building and maintaining trust in local government requires constant effort, transparency, and open dialogue. If re-elected, I will continue to advocate for expanding our communication efforts, increasing accessibility, and ensuring that all residents feel informed and engaged in the decisions that impact them.

**10. Can you share an example of an ethical dilemma you have faced in your personal or professional life? How did you handle it and what did you learn from your experience?**

Throughout my decade in public service, I have occasionally encountered situations where seeking guidance from the State Ethics Commission was the best way to ensure I upheld the highest ethical standards. Massachusetts provides public officials with a valuable resource for navigating potential conflicts of interest, and I have always been proactive in using it to maintain transparency and public trust.

For example, during my time on the School Committee, I consulted the Ethics Commission and filed the necessary disclosures when decisions intersected with my children's education. Similarly, as a Select Board member, I have disclosed potential connections to my family's business to avoid even the appearance of impropriety.

These experiences have reinforced the importance of honesty, transparency, and seeking expert advice when needed. Ethical questions can arise in public service, but how we address them defines our leadership. By following the law, utilizing available resources, and always prioritizing the community's best interests, I strive to serve Sudbury with integrity and accountability.

For residents interested in learning more, ethics disclosures are public records available through the Town Clerk's office — an important aspect of the transparency that helps build and maintain trust in local government.

Thank you again to the Sudbury Weekly for the opportunity to provide answers to these important questions. In the event anyone has additional questions, I have several meet and greet opportunities in person and virtually where I am happy to engage with community members. https://golisa.org/meet-lisa Community members can also email me questions or request a campaign sign at Lisa@GoLisa.org I look forward to working very hard to earn our residents votes on March 31st!

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Tue, Apr 21, 2026 at 8:42 PM
Subject: Opinion Article
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Hi Kevin,  Attached please find an article that I would like to submit to The Weekly as an opinion piece regarding vocational education. It is 801 words. I know you suggest a range up to 750 I believe. Do I need to reduce the word count?
Also, I do not have an image to go along with the article. Do I need one?
Thank you!!
Lisa

# “Vote Yes on Article 13 to Support Vocational Education at Annual Town Meeting May 4th-Help Bring Our Students and Families Home”

By Lisa Kouchakdjian

*I am the current Chair of the Sudbury Select Board and the opinions expressed in this article are my own and should not be attributed to any other member of the Select Board. The Select Board has voted to support this article.*

The Town of Sudbury’s relationship with Minuteman Vocational Technical High School (Minuteman) began in 1970. It was home for the students and families who attended. All that changed by a vote of our community at a Special Town Meeting on February 9, 2016. On that night, 176 attendees to Special Town Meeting voted to leave Minuteman. Since that time, our students and families have been without a vocational education home.

No one could have predicted the dramatic increase in interest and desire for vocational education over the next several years. No one expected there would be so few seats available to non-member students. No one wanted our students and families to be without a vocational education home.

At the time the Town moved away from Minuteman it was the Board of Selectmen’s desire to become a member of a vocational education district. It just never happened. Over the last number of years, vocational education and investigating options for membership has been a high priority goal for the current Select Board. I have been incredibly impressed with the Select Board’s dedication and commitment to this work. The Board has stayed in consistent contact with the four major vocational education schools in our area. These schools are the ones in closest proximity to Sudbury: Keefe Regional Technical School in Framingham, Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School in Marlborough, Nashoba Valley Technical High School in Westford and Minuteman High School in Lexington. All of these schools are excellent. I have visited each one of them and spoken with the

wonderful administrators that run the schools. So far, the only school that has suggested possible membership is Minuteman.

To demonstrate our collective commitment to vocational education in Sudbury, the Select Board, with the support of our Town Manager, is offering an article at Annual Town Meeting on May 4th to establish a stabilization fund to dedicate funds and save money for the buy-in costs to become a member again of a vocational education school. The money could be used to re-join any vocational education school, not just Minuteman. Although we do not know yet the exact amount of the buy-in costs, the Town of Sudbury is in discussions with administrators at Minuteman to better understand those costs.

Why passage of Article 13 is important:

- To demonstrate our commitment as a community to vocational education
- To build trust again with member communities of vocational schools
- To save money for when the opportunity arises to re-join as a member
- To support the academic, vocational and social/emotional goals of All students

In the Select Board's recent communications with Minuteman, administrators have specifically stated how impressed they are with Sudbury's efforts to seek membership by putting forth this article at our Annual Town Meeting. Administrators of Minuteman have told us there are two other towns, in addition to Sudbury, that are seeking membership at Minuteman. Sudbury is the only community taking these steps. Passage of Article 13 will send a clear message that investment in vocational education in Sudbury is a top priority for our community.

Although last year seven students were admitted to Minuteman and this year, as of the writing of this article, seven students have applied, but not yet admitted, our students are not guaranteed admission to Minuteman because we are not a member. The only way moving forward that our students will be guaranteed admission is if we become a member. As wonderful as Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School is, some student's needs are best served in a vocational education setting.

I also would like to acknowledge our staff at Curtis Middle School who have been working hard to support students seeking vocational education. It has not been easy for them to navigate the waters of uncertainty and to answer the difficult questions from families. Our teachers and staff are on the ground dealing with the difficult circumstances created by the lack of membership. Passage and support of Article 13 will also benefit our wonderful teachers and staff working hard to support our students.

We need to make sure our students and families have a vocational education home in the future. The only way we can do that is if we earn membership. Our students and families deserve the best options as they consider their futures. Come to Annual Town Meeting on May 4th to support Article 13 and help us to move our relationship with vocational education forward!

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Thu, Feb 13, 2025 at 1:58 PM
Subject: Opinion Letter
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Attached please find an opinion piece for publication in The Sudbury Weekly. Attached also is a photo to be included with the article.
Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you!
Lisa

**Re-Elect Lisa Kouchakdjian**

**Sudbury Select Board – Moving Sudbury Forward**

I am thrilled to announce my candidacy for re-election to the Sudbury Select Board! Serving on the Select Board since 2022 has been an incredible honor, and together, we have made significant progress.

One of my first accomplishments was working with my colleagues to hire Town Manager Andy Sheehan, a leader with the right experience at the right time. Under the Select Board's direction, he is actively strengthening our town's financial foundation—developing a sustainable operating budget, creating a proactive capital plan, and addressing long-standing staffing shortages to ensure we continue delivering top-quality services to residents. Strong leadership on the Select Board is essential to supporting these efforts, and that's why I'm running for re-election.

**Building a Stronger Sudbury**

During my first term, I advocated for a space use facilities assessment—approved and funded at Town Meeting—that is now being finalized. This plan will allow us to better prioritize and execute projects in a fiscally responsible manner, minimizing costly delays and ensuring our town's infrastructure meets the needs of today and tomorrow.

Bringing major projects to completion has been a top priority. The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and the Fairbank Community Center are now becoming key assets for our town. Soon, our two incredible rail trails will be fully accessible to the community, providing recreational opportunities for generations to come. Meanwhile, the new Fairbank Community Center is already enhancing the lives of many residents, and I remain committed to ensuring its continued success. Looking ahead, I am excited to support the upcoming Open Space and Recreation Plan to further expand and improve recreational opportunities in Sudbury.

**Commitment to Sustainability & Public Safety**

Sustainability remains a priority. In my first term, we added a dedicated sustainability role to the town's operating budget, and we're making progress with solar panel installations and EV charging stations across town. Climate resiliency

efforts will continue to be a focus—we owe it to future generations to reduce our carbon footprint and make environmentally responsible choices at the local level.

Public safety is also a top concern. As the demand for services grows, we must ensure our police and fire departments have the resources, staffing, and infrastructure they need to protect our community. Residents deeply value our public safety services, and I will continue to advocate for these essential investments.

**Leadership That Brings People Together**

While we've accomplished a lot, there is still more to do. We need leadership that will continue to move Sudbury forward—putting aside politics, promoting inclusivity, and ensuring every resident is valued and heard. In a time of national division, we must come together locally. As a Select Board member, I have always been committed to listening to all perspectives, engaging in respectful dialogue, and making decisions that serve the best interests of our entire community.

Being a public servant in Sudbury is one of the greatest honors of my life. Over the next several weeks, I look forward to connecting with as many residents as possible. I invite you to visit my website at www.GoLisa.org, email me at Lisa@GoLisa.org, and follow my campaign on Facebook at facebook.com/golisa.org.

With the right leadership, we can continue moving Sudbury forward—together. I humbly ask for your support and your vote on **March 31st!**

Lisa Kouchakdjian

[redacted]

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Fri, Mar 21, 2025 at 10:45 AM
Subject: Photo for article
To: <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

# VOTE!

Monday, March 31

# Lisa Kouchakdjian & Radha C

## FOR SUDBURY SELECT BOA

- ✓ Transparent Leadership
- ✓ Community-Driven Decisions
- ✓ Respect. Accountability. Progre

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Mon, Jan 6, 2025 at 5:16 PM
Subject: Submission Headline
To: <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Sorry I forgot to include a headline!
Thanks!
Lisa

"Re-Elect Lisa Kouchakdjian for Select Board - Moving Sudbury Forward"

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Mon, Jan 6, 2025 at 5:09 PM
Subject: Submission to the Weekly
To: <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Below please find a submission to The Sudbury Weekly. Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thanks!!
Lisa

Earlier this morning on January 6th I had the honor of pulling papers to seek re-election to the Sudbury Select Board. I have loved serving Sudbury for the last three years on the Select Board, and for years before that on the SPS School Committee and Commission on Disability. I look forward to working very hard over the next several weeks and months to earn your support to serve another term.

Please follow me on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/golisa.org/
Please stay tuned for the launch of my updated website GoLisa.org
where I'll share more detail on how we can keep *Moving Sudbury Forward!*

With great joy and appreciation,
Lisa Kouchakdjian
[redacted]
Sudbury

N of SUDBURY
SUDBURY
SETTLED 1638
INCORPORATED 1639
WADSWORTH
OFFICIAL
BALLOT
DROP BOX
EST. 1638
SUDBURY TOWN
HALL
TOWN CLERK
Columbia

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Lisa Kouchakdjian**[redacted]
Date: Fri, Feb 13, 2026 at 2:48 PM
Subject: Thank you!
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Kevin, Thanks for putting up the events. I noticed on the Engaging Minds event that the Register button doesn't work. Here is the link to register that you can include in the post if possible.

https://engagingmindsonline.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_w_n7QJqtSmWyVxlzUJHF9g#/registration

Thanks!!!
Lisa

From: **Charlie Russo**[redacted]
Date: Fri, Feb 13, 2026 at 9:12 AM
Subject: Re: Letter to Editor / Opinion
To: Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com>

Looks good, thanks much.
- Charlie

On Thu, Feb 12, 2026 at 10:49 PM Sudbury Weekly <sudburyweekly@gmail.com> wrote:
Hi Charlie,

This is published here:
https://sudburyweekly.com/russo-for-re-election-to-the-sudbury-select-board/

Let me know if you want the headline changed or any formatting adjustments? I think WordPress did well with the formatting from your doc, but I'm always happy to make adjustments.

Cheers,
Kevin

On Thu, Feb 12, 2026 at 8:48 PM Charlie Russo [redacted] wrote:
Hi Kevin,
Please accept this letter and attached headshot for inclusion in the Opinion section of the Sudbury Weekly.

thanks!
Charlie

--
--
Kevin LaHaise
SudburyWeekly@gmail.com

**Read Sudbury Weekly online here:**
www.SudburyWeekly.com

**Subscribe to our email newsletter here.**

2:27

It's such an easy win. But the [illegible]set on a field lin[illegible]ith [illegible]+ foot trees ap[illegible]y matters more.

KL

Kevin

Thu, Feb 12 at 9:04 PM

Will get the letter published tonight and included in the newsletter tomorrow!

On a personal note: thanks for continuing to serve the community. Sudbury is better because of it.

Thanks for the quick turnaround. And thank you for the nice comment, I appreciate that.

HA HA

I am behind in all my campaign stuff. It's nice to be unopposed, but it's dulling my edge! 😄

I love when unopposed candidates still make the effort. Raises the bar for all future candidates, opposed or not!

Mon, Mar 9 at 5:38 PM

iMessage

So, what's this I'm told about a Letter in SW from Len Simon on Jan. 6 saying that the Select

2:27

KL

Kevin

Mon, Mar 9 at 5:38 PM

Hey: what's this I'm told about. Letter in SW from Len Simon on Jan. 6 saying that the Select Board created a Sewataro subcommittee? Did that actually happen?

The only letter on January 6 is Ravi's announcement for reelection to the LSRHS School Committee.

🤔

Len had a letter on the 22nd

iMessage

2:27

KL

Kevin

Len had a letter on the 22nd

**The Future of Liberty Ledge**
sudburyweekly.com

Ah. Right. Was that version edited?

Nope

Ok

Hold on - just double checked version history.

Someone requested a small factual correction, which Len agreed to and I updated it.

Can you summarize the change?

iMessage

Yep - the sentence about the

version history.

2:28

KL

Kevin

Can you summarize the change?

Yep - the sentence about the committee. The person who requested a change wanted it to be clear that the committee was not established. So the all caps words below were added.

MAY include a more expansive committee, which COULD include town residents and experts

The person who requested the change is not an elected or appointed official but is involved with Sewataro.

Got it, thanks. Angry Lenny pulling the puppet strings again. Crazy how disenfranchised Sudbury voters are now. Lenny gets his revenge, 500 Sudbury kids get shafted.

HA HA

iMessage

the business needs bigger

2:28

KL

Kevin

LOL - I think I may have blown Kristen's mind recently when I told her my main critique is that the business needs bigger

If we can get a better deal than the current one, I'm all for it. But there are 240 Sudbury families using the camp, and something like 75 Sudbury residents employed there. If the Town took it over, the weeds would be above my head in 2 weeks and fewer residents would use it than now and we'd lose out on $300k in revenue and $300k in maintenance.

I told Kristen I want to join the subcommittee tour and do a photo essay so readers can see/hear everything the committee hears from her and Scott

Their perspective deserves equal time, including employee

iMessage

My old neighbor works there

I told Kristen I want to join the su[illegible]nmittee tour and do a photo essay so readers can [illegible]hear everythin[illegible] [illegible]nmittee hears f[illegible] and Scott

2:28

KL

Kevin

Their perspective deserves equal time, including employee perspectives

My old neighbor works there

That's great - give residents the info, let them decide.

That's good faith. I wish there was more of that on Select Board.

I try my best to be balanced. I'm not perfect, but it's a far cry from whatever they're saying about me on OS. I even published [redacted] shitpost as an op/ed!

And I take heat from both sides on every major story!

HA HA

I feel ya there.

You guys have it worse than me!

iMessage

[illegible]ends on the day, I thi[illegible] You've gotten a double dose lately.

2:28

KL

Kevin

You guys have it w[illegible]an me!

Depends on the day, I think. You've gotten a double dose lately.

HA HA

[redacted]

Tue, Mar 24 at 3:10 PM

Are you still accepting LTEs for the election?

Deadline/cutoff was Sunday at 11:59pm unfortunately

Got it

Mon, May 11 at 9:15 PM

What they're saying about you is bullshit. And it's not news.

Thank you for that. I should [illegible] knew if I said more something like this would happen. Sigh

iMessage

Deadline/cutoff was Sunday at 11:59pm unfortunately

2:28

KL

Mon 5 PM

Kevin

What they're saying about you is bullshit. And it's not news.

Thank you for that. I should have just done my quick "I vote no" and kept my mouth shut. I knew if I said more something like this would happen. Sigh.

My ultra secret data source is the MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey. And the SPS Connectivity Survey. It was imprecise to use the word "grades" as in test results; I should have said something like "attitudes toward school" or along those lines.

And I did laugh at the ridiculousness of good people trying to do good things for kids, however imperfectly, and getting treated like this. Gotta laugh.

I think your being elected three times by large majorities and being on the Sudbury side of social issues every step of the way makes these attacks pretty ridiculous in thousands of voters.

iMessage

2:29

KL

Kevin

imprecise to use the word "grades" as in test results, I should have said something like "[illegible]s toward school or alo[illegible]se lines.

And I did laugh at the ridiculousness of good people trying to do good things for kids, however imperfectly, and getting treated like this. Gotta laugh.

I think your being elected three times by large majorities and being on the Sudbury side of social issues every step of the way makes these attacks pretty offensive to thousands of voters.

HA HA

Okay - large majorities 2/3 times to be precise... but the first time was a pretty solid upset victory.

All fair points.

Delivered

There's a track record here... picking apart your words (even if you are fair minded enough to critique yourself) ignores YEARS of public record.

iMessage