

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM
Monday, September 8, 2008
7:00 P.M.**

Members attending: Keith Cheveralls, Virginia Justicz, Stu Sklar, Patty Wenger, Willie Wickman, and Thomas W. Jefferson

Call to Order – Stu Sklar, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Minutes

VOTED Keith Cheveralls made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to accept the Minutes from the September 2, 2008 meeting as amended. (5/0) to accept the motion. . (Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Willie Wickman (Yes).

VOTED Virginia Justicz made a motion and Willie Wickmans seconded to accept the Executive Minutes from the August 25, 2008 meeting to be released. (5/0) to accept the motion. . (Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Willie Wickman (Yes).

Student Report

Jacquie Holmes, Andrew Korstvedt and Emma Cait O'Rourke Friel, student representatives, reported that both Cross Country Teams and Boys Varsity Soccer won their games, new staff was welcomed, school picture day is tomorrow, students assisted with the Council on Aging BBQ, agreed that using the Hapgood Library as a Teen Center was a good idea, and invited School Committee members for meet and greets with Student Council.

School Committee Reports

Patty Wenger reported that the GeoThermal tour date was moved to September 30th at the Hastings School.

Virginia Justicz reported that the Special Education Audit Committee met last week and voted Bob Thurston as its chair. Bob will work with Gagliardi to coordinate the process.

Willie Wickman reported that Glenn Koocher from MASC will be conducting a joint School Council training.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Jefferson expressed his thanks to everyone who assisted in the opening of schools. He further reported that the newly installed ceiling fans at the Elementary School were receiving great reviews and that they were making a great difference in the air flow. He extended his personal thanks to the anonymous donor of the fans. He informed the Committee and public that a reception was scheduled for Wednesday at 4:00 at the Bromfield House for new staff. He invited John Drummey of the Lions Club to speak about the Fall Festival schedule for this coming weekend. He also presented updated enrollment data to the Committee.

SC Goal Setting

The Committee reviewed and editing their draft goals from their initial meeting. The Committee asked Virginia Justicz to prepare a new version of the draft goals. The other members would then provide feedback which she would incorporate for another goal setting meeting on September 15, 2008.

Grievance Language

The Committee reviewed a draft Grievance Procedure and decided that the entire Committee would be the Level 3 authority.

Keith Cheveralls made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to accept the Grievance Procedure as amended.

VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion. . (Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Willie Wickman (Yes).

Policy Review

The Committee did a first reading of Section J – Students Policies. There were some minor edits. The Committee recommended that the policies be reviewed by each School Council before the second reading at the next School Committee meeting.

Meeting Schedule

The Committee reviewed a proposed 2008/09 Meeting Schedule. They approved the schedule and agreed to meet on 10/27 at 11:00 a.m. at Monty Tech. Dr. Jefferson requested that Budget Guidelines and Timelines be put on the next agenda for discussion.

Coordinated Program Review

Dr. Jefferson provided a copy of the ESE's Coordinated Program Review to the Committee. He stated that the requested actions were being reviewed and prepared by Pam DeGregorio and that it was anticipated that timelines would be met. Keith Cheveralls requested a status update on the CPR progress at the December 8th meeting.

Devens

The Committee discussed educational scenarios regarding potential Devens' disposition. They will obtain more information from the Board of Selectmen as to clarify their response. It was decided that school land acquisition was a priority.

Superintendent Contract

The Committee discussed whether to extend the Superintendent's contract to June of 2011.

Virginia Justicz made the motion and Patty Wenger seconded to postpone a vote until the meeting to give the public an opportunity to provide feedback.

Keith Cheveralls made a friendly amendment to that motion to table the vote until May of 2009. Virginia did not accept as friendly amendment. Patty Wenger seconded his motion.

VOTED (2/3) to not accept the motion. . (Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Virginia Justicz (No), Stu Sklar (No) Patty Wenger (Yes), Willie Wickman (No).

The original motion stands.

VOTED (3/2) to accept the motion. . (Keith Cheveralls (No), Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Willie Wickman (No).

Gifts

The Harvard PTO submitted the following two) 2 donations:

1. \$1197.00 for three kindergarten carpets
2. \$717.34 for swings

There was anonymous donation of ceiling fans for the Elementary School.

Willie Wickman made the motion and Virginia Justicz seconded to accept the donations.

VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion. . (Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Willie Wickman (Yes).

The Committee asked that thank you letters be sent.

Adjournment

Patty Wenger made a motion and Virginia Justicz seconded to adjourn the meeting.

VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion. . (Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Willie Wickman (Yes).

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 a.m.

Minutes submitted,

Jackie Smith
Secretary