

School Committee Minutes  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
Monday, December 14, 2009  
7:00 P.M.

Members attending: Keith Cheveralls, Virginia Justicz , Stu Sklar, Patty Wenger, Piali De, Maureen Babcock, and Thomas Jefferson

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**Minutes**

Patty Wenger made a motion and Virginia Justicz seconded to approve the Minutes from the November 23, 2009 meeting as amended.  
VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion. (Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Virginia Justicz (Yes), Piali De (Yes).

**Student Reports**

Ryan Holmes thanked the committee for attending the student council meeting. The basketball team lost their first game. Tryouts for Drama festival are in progress.

**School Committee Reports**

Virginia Justicz enjoyed meeting with the Student Council and was pleased by the thoughtful suggestions and great discussion. Virginia would like the Athletic Department set up into a cost center similar in format to all other cost centers. The annual report data needs to be submitted to Julie Doucette by January 15<sup>th</sup>. Virginia will send out an email around topics for the annual report for member input.

Stu Sklar reported that the school council would like to work towards a reduction in user fees and include at least part of the cost of athletics in the omnibus budget. The School Council is going to come up with some ideas. Stu is also looking into some type of business sponsorship of teams, but will not be able to expedite in time for FY11 budget.

Patty Wenger reported that the Energy Advisory Committee is looking to complete the engineering study for the placement of panels at The Bromfield School. All lights have been changed at HES and HES is heating with a new boiler.

Piali De is to meet with Jeff Harris about renaming the elementary school. Piali briefly discussed Race to the Top with more to follow. Piali applauds the state for their renewed focus for excellence in Massachusetts education.

Maureen Babcock reported that parents from Devens are very pleased and students are happy.

Keith Cheveralls met with the Student Council and felt that the young people in the group were engaging, interesting and energizing with good insightful questions.

### **Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Jefferson reported that The Bromfield School was ranked in the top 100 schools in America by US News and World Report. It is a very impressive award and a great district accomplishment.

Superintendent Jefferson reported that Ray Carignan, a Bromfield custodian, is retiring at the end of January. As well, Maryellen McGarty, Michael McGarty and Therese Keoseian will be retiring from teaching at the end of the school year. All have made extraordinary contributions to The Bromfield School and will be missed tremendously.

Superintendent Jefferson explained the Race to the Top grant being made available to districts with the use of federal stimulus money. In order to pursue the funding a memorandum of understand needs to be sent by January 13, 2010 detailing what the district would use the funds for. The committee agreed to schedule a special meeting to discuss objectives and next steps to move forward with the process.

### **Elementary School Improvement Plan**

Marybeth Banios presented a status report regarding the HES school improvement plan.

### **Bromfield School Improvement Plan**

Jim O'Shea presented a status report regarding the Bromfield school improvement plan.

### **Policy Subcommittee**

Piali De made a motion and Virginia Justicz seconded to approve Policy IHBA, IKF and CA-B with the stated amendment.

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

### **Future Agenda Item**

Devens-DEAC –plan a regular school committee meeting to be held at Devens.

Plan a regular school committee meeting to be held at Monty Tech.

New Revenue.

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to adjourn. All in favor.

Adjourned 10:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted,

Mary Zadroga

Recording Secretary