

School Committee Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, December 21, 2009
6:30 p.m.

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

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

Minutes

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to approve the Minutes from the December 4, 2009 Capital discussions.
VOTED (4/0) to accept the motion. (Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Piali De (Yes).

School Committee Reports

Keith Cheveralls reported that according to state ethic guidelines members of the committee, who pay user fees, can deliberate on the subject as long as two criteria are met (1) user fees have to be incurred by more than 10% of the entire student body. (2) anyone participating has to file a disclosure statement. Disclosure forms are available from Town Clerk.

Committee will review annual report input at the January 11, 2010 meeting.

Superintendent Weekly Written Report

Patty Wenger reported that there was positive information given at the MASS conference with regard to districts that had implemented the "Superintendent's Weekly Report". The report can be sent out electronically or written and give bits and pieces of info to school committee members about the happenings of the week. It was agreed that Dr. Jefferson will put out the weekly report and then get feedback as to how things are going to see if it will continue through the year.

Superintendent of School Job Description

The Committee agreed to make this a first reading of the superintendent's job description and finalize at the next meeting.

Race to the Top (RTTT) Memorandum of Understanding

The Committee agreed that it makes sense to go forward with the Race to the Top grant. There is no compelling reason not to and if it is not great opportunity we can choose to walk away. Piali De discussed an IB program at the elementary and middle school level as well as computer programming at the high school as possible programs that could be implemented using the RTTT funds.

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded- move that the Harvard Public Schools sign the memorandum of understanding for Race to the Top. Authorize the chair to sign on behalf of the School Committee
VOTED (4/0) to accept the motion. (Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Piali De (Yes).

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to adjourn at 7:36. All in favor.

Minutes submitted,

Mary Zadroga
Recording Secretary