

School Committee Minutes
The Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, October 24, 2011
6:00 p.m.

Members attending: Keith Cheveralls, Kirsten Wright, Piali De, Patty Wenger, SusanMary Redinger, Maureen Babcock and Joseph Connelly.

Keith Cheveralls called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Patty Wenger made a motion and SusanMary Redinger seconded to accept the minutes of the October 11, 2011 meeting as amended.

VOTE (5/0) to accept the motion

HES “Bucket Filling Program” Presentation – Dawn-Marie Ayles

Dawn-Marie Ayles and Linda Dwight along with students from grade 2 shared a program based on the book “How Full Is Your Bucket?” The "fill your bucket" program promotes good deeds by sharing handwritten, personal messages on raindrop shaped paper. The kind words are received unexpectedly and intended to encourage positive recognition.

Student Report

Nick George reported that the Student Council is looking forward to their upcoming meeting with the School Committee. They feel it is a very valuable experience. Fall sports are winding down and several teams are gearing up for playoffs.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Connelly gave an update on the administrative leadership models status. Joe would like to meet Superintendents in the communities that have part-time or shared Principal/Superintendent roles when Joe, Kirsten and SusanMary attend the MASS/MASC conference in November. Joe would like the committee and the administrative council to generate questions to ask. The committee decided to add time to their meeting with Student Council to formulate questions to be asked.

Dr. Connelly presented for approval \$15,265.16 in gifts from the Harvard Schools Trust.

SusanMary Redinger made a motion and Piali De seconded to move that we accept the gifts listed in the agenda packet from the Harvard Schools Trust as noted.

VOTE (5/0) to accept the motion

School Committee Reports

Patty Wenger will be meeting with the Energy Advisory committee and Mark Force on Thursday to discuss future plan.

SusanMary Redinger reported that HES School Council met and they will be posting the climate survey on edline. They also had a robust discussion regarding the World Language initiative.

Kirsten Wright reported that SEPAC met last week with Dr. Dwight and discussed implementation of the Bully Policy. The Bromfield School Council meets tomorrow.

Piali De reported that the Policy Subcommittee met and reviewed Section B- School Committee Operations. Changes will be made to update the policies and they will be brought

for review of the committee in December. There are three other sections that need to be reviewed.

Keith Cheveralls reported that the Budget Subcommittee will meet with the Finance Committee on Wednesday, November 2nd. Keith and Kirsten met informally with the HTA which is under the new leadership of Kellie Carlucci, HTA President and Sharlene Tuttle, HTA Vice President. The budget review dates were modified from a previous schedule. The new date for the committee to meet with budget stake holders is December 5, and December 8th from 6 to 9 p.m. at The Bromfield School library. A presentation of Project Interface which categorizes a wide range of valuable resources related to mental health and wellness for the benefit of the general public – children, adults and families – as well as educators and mental health professionals is scheduled for November 1st at 1:00 p.m in Volunteers Hall. The School Committee has been invited to attend the BOS meeting on November 1st to meet with representatives from Trinity Financial and ask questions. The Committee will meet on October 28, 2011 after the student council meeting to formulate questions. Keith would like the committee to get the necessary information in order to do a detailed impact analysis of the proposal by Trinity Financial.

Bully Prevention Plan – Progress Report

Dr. Linda Dwight highlighted the curriculum materials which include books, videos and newsletters to parents that are being used in the Steps to Respect anti bullying curriculum being used at Hildreth Elementary School.

Jim O’Shea discussed the World of Difference program being used at The Bromfield School as the anti bullying curriculum. The program uses peer trainers to create a supportive environment.

School Department Five Year Capital Plan 2013-2017

The committee reviewed the five year capital plan as presented. The capital plan presented included a page on Technology and a page on Major Curriculum Initiatives. Keith will explain this approach to the Capital Committee. The committee made some minor changes to the plan which will now be submitted to the Capital Committee.

2012/2013 School Enrollment Projection Report

Dr. Connelly presented the Enrollment and Capacity Report. He explained how all of the numbers are arrived at and how the numbers are used to determine staffing, room needs and supplies by grade level for the upcoming year. Keith thanked Joe for bringing these enrollment documents to the district. They are a tremendous piece of work that will be used for years to come.

School Committee/Superintendent 2011/2012 Goals – Quarterly Report

Joe Connelly review with the committee each of the goals for 2011/2012 school year. Each goal was listed with a status, percentage of completion and a comment. SusanMary Redinger commented that she is very happy that we have this structure in place and we can easily see how we are doing.

Future Agenda Items

Goals review in February and May

December – Policy review segments

MCAS – In-depth report on 10/11 (November 28th)

Boxborough meeting November 2nd 1-2:30 in Harvard

Commentary

Piali De – shift in discussion - moving forward - looking forward. Feels great.

SusanMary Redinger – great meeting!

Keith – Will not be here for the next meeting, but it will be chaired by the very capable hands of Kirsten Wright. Joy to see the kids tonight.

Joe Connelly – Things are going well. Maureen's influence on the DEAC meeting was very positive

SusanMary Redinger made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

VOTE (5/0) to accept the motion

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Zadroga