

School Committee Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, July 8, 2013
6:00 p.m.

Members attending: SusanMary Redinger, Patty Wenger, Bob Sullebarger, Joseph Connelly, Lorraine Leonard. Absent: Keith Cheveralls, Kirsten Wright, and Maureen Babcock

SusanMary Redinger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Review of Minutes

SusanMary made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to approve the minutes of the June 17th meeting as amended

VOTE 3/0

School Committee Educator (Superintendent) Evaluation Training

Anne McKenzie, Executive Director of the Pioneer Valley Special Education Collaborative conducted a training session on the new mandated superintendent evaluation process being implemented during the school year 2013/2014.

Reports

Dr. Connelly reported that the Education Evaluation Training held on June 25 and 26 was very productive. All evaluators were present for the training.

Dr. Connelly reported that the PK enrollment justifies one classroom for next year with a balance of special needs and typical students. The Kindergarten enrollment is now at 51 students.

Dr. Connelly identified 3 School Choice students who were leaving the district. The vacancies are in grades 10 and 12. The Committee will decide at their next meeting how they wish to proceed.

Liaison & Subcommittee

SusanMary Redinger informed the Committee that the Master Planning Steering Committee is requesting appointment of a liaison from the School Comimittee.

Personnel Report

Dr. Connelly reported that Second Grade teacher, Cindy Hansen had resigned after 19 years with the Harvard Public Schools. She will be missed terribly. In addition, Talia Mercandante resigned as Choral Teacher at The Bromfield School to take a job in Ashland.

On the hiring side:

Julianna Steadman –Kindergarten - HES

Olyan Rosal – Spanish – TBS

Janet Pergola/Brown – English – TBS

Outstanding vacancies remain in Art, Music, ELL, Grade 2, School Adjustment Counselor, Part-time ELL Teacher, and Nurse which will hopefully be finalized soon.

Master Plan Steering Committee

Patty Wenger made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to move to appoint SusanMary Redinger to the Master Plan Steering Committee as the School Committee liaison.

VOTE 3/0

Model UN Field Trip to Italy

Jake Turchetta, current president of the Bromfield's Model UN presented a request for the Bromfield Model United Nations to attend the international conference in Genoa, Italy, during the next February vacation week. Approximately 24 students are expected to participate. Students have already earned \$4,000 to help defray the cost of the trips and plan to continue fundraising. No financial need has been identified by students planning to attend the trip.

SusanMary Redinger noted that the Committee had previously asked for an overall plan for international trips, similar to a master schedule so the Committee would be aware of what is coming down the pike. SusanMary asked that future applications be grouped and presented twice a year to give all clubs the same opportunity.

Bob Sullebarger made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to approve the GeMun International field trip from February 14 -23, 2014.

VOTE 3/0

FY13 Financial Closeout – Lorraine Leonard

Lorraine Leonard presented the contracts for the building assessment work at The Bromfield House and the Science Lab analysis at The Bromfield School. Both contracts were awarded to Gorman Richard Lewis Architects from Hopkinton, MA

Bob Sullebarger made a motion and SusanMary Redinger seconded to move that we approve the two contracts from Gorman Richard Lewis Architects in the amount of \$15,100 for the structural analysis of The Bromfield House and \$17,500 for the science lab analysis at The Bromfield School.

VOTE 3/0

Lorraine Leonard reviewed the FY13 close-out and reported that there were a few surprises in the last few bill warrants resulting in less than expected surplus. As a result money earmarked to purchase Bromfield textbooks out of the surplus will most likely need to be taken from Devens as originally planned.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded that up to \$22,000 be funded from the Devens Revolving account and not the omnibus budget to purchase textbooks for The Bromfield School.

VOTE 3/0

School Committee/Superintendent 2013/2014 Outcomes

Dr. Connelly discussed with the Committee goals/outcomes to be considered for school year 2013/2014. The Committee will discuss further at their next meeting.

Superintendent Search – Internal Candidate Process Planning

SusanMary Redinger announced that Dr. Linda Dwight had submitted her formal application for the position of superintendent. The Committee discussed upcoming steps that include public meetings, development of interview questions, outside consultants, and dates. A Subcommittee would create a timeline and action plan. SusanMary asked for recommendations for who would want to be on the Subcommittee.

Bob Sullebarger made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to move that we nominate SusanMary Redinger and Kirsten Wright to the Superintendent Search Subcommittee.
VOTE 3/0

SusanMary Redinger said the School Committee should aim to make a decision by its September 16th meeting on Dr. Dwight's candidacy so as to leave time for an outside search if Dwight is not selected.

Future Agenda Items

Meeting Location
CASE Representative
Goals
Newsletter

Commentary

SusanMary Redinger – Wished everyone a happy summer!

SusanMary Redinger made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to adjourn at 8:15p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Zadroga
Recording Secretary