School Committee Minutes

Upstairs of the Town Hall

Monday, May 8, 2017

6:15 p.m.

Members attending: SusanMary Redinger, Mary Traphagen, Jon Green, Nancy Lancellotti, John Ruark, Linda Dwight and Peter Rowe. Absent: Maureen Babcock, Chloe Cushing.

Mary Traphagen called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

Dr. Dwight read the Core Value Statement.

**Open to Interested Citizens’ Commentary**

None

**Student Report – None**

**Vote of Teacher Contract Agreement**

Mary Traphagen reviewed the major changes to the teacher’s contract which include increased health insurance premium contributions of 5% over the three years of the contract. The increase for year 1 is 2%, year 2 is 1% and year 3 is 2%. In addition the teachers will receive a 7.5% salary increase over the three year contract. The increase for year 1 is 1.5%, year 2 is 2.75% and year 3 is 2% for the first 92 days and an additional 1.25% for the remaining 93 days of the work year.

There were minor changes to language regarding professional development and stipends for athletics, extracurricular and co-curricular assignments.

SusanMary Redinger made a motion and Jon Green seconded to move that we authorize the members of the Negotiating Subcommittee to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the School Committee as presented.

VOTE 5/0

**Grant Approval**

Dr. Dwight presented for approval the following gifts:

SCREENAGERS - $650.

Business Professional of America Spring Conference support - $1,035

iMac Workstation Bromfield HCTV - $2,595

SusanMary Redinger made a motion and Nancy Lancellotti seconded to approve the grants as presented.

VOTE 5/0

**Superintendent Report**

Dr. Dwight reported on the following

* We submitted the Professional Development Plan on time to reach future benchmark dates.
* We held several public forums; at HES library and at the General Store. After the full explanation of the process to date, a description of the schematic designs and costs, we took a poll vote of the attendees. Alternative 4, which is to build a new building at Hildreth was the favorite choice.
* The working sub-committee met to discuss the condition reports, costs for renovations of the HCVAC system, overall cost estimates, and next steps.
* We are working on a presentation for tomorrow’s public forum and a survey for the general public.
* Josh Myler has been selected as the next principal of the Hildreth Elementary School. The interview committee conducted the process by giving every candidate fair consideration. Josh answered the questions with such passion and clarity that he became the preferred candidate of the committee. We are fortunate to have his leadership and the consistency for the district.
* Students, faculty and community members joined together for two recent events planned by the Arm and Arm champions. The first speaker, Charles Dew, explored implicit bias and generational racism. The second speaker, Gish Jen, spoke about cultural differences between the east and west based on our world view from different perspectives. She identified the west as large pit centered and east being flexi-self-centered. Both authors signed books for the well-attended events.
* Parents of fifth grade students were invited into a technology safety session with the Harvard Chief of Police, Ed Denmark. The first part of the session was held with parents and students together. Then, the Chief met with parent by themselves. We are hosting another event for families about technology safety on May 30th in Volunteer’s Hall in the Public Library.
* Tomorrow Shrewsbury is showing the Screenagers movie.
* Dr. Dwight was voted as the next vice chair of the CASE committee. This is a two year position.
* Many volunteers listened to our graduating students describe their 40 hour service projects. Students shared details of their work and the impact this service made on their lives.

**Policy Review ACAB-R, JBA, ACAB**

The Committee reviewed policy ACAB-R, ACABA and JBA.

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Nancy Lancellotti seconded to replace the existing policy ACABA with the amended policy ACAB-R.

VOTE 5/0

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Nancy Lancellotti seconded to eliminate Policy ACAB-R and JBA.

VOTE 5/0

**Personnel Spreadsheet and Budget Update**

Peter Rowe is projecting total spending for the year at $15,136,143 which would yield a small surplus for the year of $8,650. The major factors affecting spending are custodial services, regular transportation, out of district placement and loss of the state funded Kindergarten Grant. These overages are largely offset by approximately $189K in salary savings from staff turnover, energy costs and a surplus in the Special Education transportation account. Spending patterns for the year have now been set and we should see very little change in projected activity in the final two months of the year. Peter Rowe presented a report on the FY17 Revolving Fuds and Federal Grants. This report indicates that the only major fund where projected revenue is anticipated to fall below budget is the Circuit Breaker account where revenue is projected at $391K rather than $460K budgeted. Additionally the Athletic revolving fund is expected to fall short for the year. Shortfalls to Circuit Breaker will be made up from the existing fund balance, while the Omnibus Budget carries $25K to assist the Athletic Fund toward break even status by the close of the year.

**Senior Class Activities**

Mary Traphagen reviewed the list of senior activities that are scheduled for the class of 2017 through graduation.

May 1st to May 11th – AP Exams

May 19th – Prom and Celebration

May 24th through June 2nd – Senior Finals

June 6th7th, and 8th – Graduation Practice

June 6th – Senior Athletic Awards

June 7th – Senior Scholarship and Awards Night

June 8th – Distribution of Caps and Gowns

June 8th – Class Day

June 9th - Graduation

**Attendance for Good Friday**

Dr. Dwight reported that there were 296 students absent at The Bromfield School on Good Friday, April 14, 2017. There were 75 students absent at Hildreth Elementary School. There were 45 faculty and staff that were out. The recommendation of the leadership team is to see how next year works as a scheduled early release day and with it not being attached to a vacation week. Developing a calendar with ERs on religious holidays is a creative solution that will hopefully benefit the situation. If we have an excessive amount of students out next year we should reassess having a school day. It was suggested that we notify the “Good Friday Walk” organizers that it would be great to have the walk coincide with students being released from school early on that day.

**Review the Superintendent Rubric**

Dr. Dwight explained the contents of the Superintendent Evidence Portfolio she prepared last year and asked Committee members for direction on how they wanted the evidence presented this year. The Superintendent Rubric will be presented at the next meeting. If members have a question on how certain goals were met it is recommended to meet with Linda to have her explain how the goal was met. Options on how the evidence could be presented were discussed. Matching what the teachers do has value and balance. The time frame is typically to be finished by the end of June, but the Committee is leaving Dr. Dwight the freedom to present the evidence binder in July. The Superintendent Rubric will be included in the packet for our next meeting.

**Brainstorm Topics for Student Advisory Meeting**

The Committee will discuss the following topics with the Student Advisory Committee at the May 27th meeting:

Dean of Students Position

Senior Service Projects

Use of Cell phones

Student Parking

The Prom

**Review meeting Minutes**

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Nancy Lancellotti seconded to approve the minutes of the

April 24th meeting as amended.

VOTE 5/0

**Liaison/Sub-committee reports**

Nancy Lancellotti – The Bromfield School Council is working on the parent and student surveys that will be going out before the end of the school year. The Council is working on the School Improvement Plan and will be bringing that presentation forward to the School Committee before the end of the school year.

Jon Green – SEPAC – the Special Education Annual Meeting presentation was moved and is rescheduled for May 18th at 7:00 p.m. in the Bromfield Library. Jon Green reported that he is very delighted and thankful to Harvard Schools Trust for funding the editing iMac workstation for the Harvard Cable TV studio. It is a great addition to the studio and the educational program there.

SusanMary Redinger – Met with HEAC last week and recommended that we sit down with Mark Force to review the audit report that assessed all the equipment and controllers that are not working. HEAC is still recommending the $68,000 to fund this work above and beyond the grant but would like to have Mark Force align with the list of work and then with Dr. Dwight develop the plan to present to CPIC. HEAC will know if June if they got the grant.

CPIC met today and will be sending out the end of year process letters and recapping the status of the funds and what is available. Also the five year plan as it was finalized at the end of the process. And then it starts all over again in August. CPIC is very interested in the Building Project and are hopeful to coordinator with the Finance Committee and meet on May 22nd and bring Dr. Dwight in to talk about the impact of the different scenarios and make a recommendation. Any capital projects need to be run through the Capital Committee and Finance Committee.

Mary Traphgaen – HES School Council did not meet last Wednesday. DEAC is meeting next week.

**Suggested Future Agenda Items**

Summer Schedule

Summer PD Schedule

School Improvement Plans

Movement on the SAMR model – contents areas in fall

Dean Position

Technology Position

Advisory Committee

**School Committee Commentary**

**Dr. Dwight** – The high school drama performance will be held this weekend on Friday and Saturday. Dr. Dwight acknowledged the Harvard Schools Trust for hosting the Hootenanny. It was a fun event and we are grateful to the Trust for continuing to raise money for the schools. A thank you to our teachers for all they do to make ours schools great.

**Jon Green** – Congratulations to Josh for his new appoint and look forward to seeing him in that role. Thank you to our teachers.

**SusanMary Redinger** – Celebration is looking for volunteers. The Middle School Drama Festival was a great success. A big shout-out of thanks to Maddy and Beth Drummey. SusanMary wishes to send thanks to the Security Guard – “Robin” for doing a great job and being a great asset to our schools.

**John Ruark** –. Thank you to our teachers and administration for all they do. The PTO is still in need of food items for Teacher Appreciation Week. The School Councils still have openings.

Applications are due PTO this week. The Celebration Open House will be held Friday, May 19th.

They are still in need of chaperones for the overnight event.

**Mary Traphagen** attended the Hootenanny and enjoyed the dancing. Shout out to Chef Paul for the delicious food and the music went well. Mary wanted to acknowledge Dr. Dwight for dropping off food for the teachers as well as flowers for the nurses in appreciation of Teachers Appreciation Week and Nurses Day. Dr. Dwight is very much appreciated as well.

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Jon Green seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

VOTE 5/0

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Zadroga