

School Committee Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, September 8, 2014
6:00 p.m.

Members attending: SusanMary Redinger, Bob Sullebarger, Kirsten Wright, Maureen Babcock, Linda Dwight, Lorraine Leonard Absent: Jennifer Bedford, Patty Wenger

SusanMary Redinger called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Review of Minutes

Bob Sullebarger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2014 meeting as amended.

VOTE 3/0

Reports

Superintendent Report

Dr. Dwight reported a great start to the school year for students and staff. Dr. Dwight reported that while the School Committee further studies the future location of district offices, Mark Force will continue to maintain the Bromfield House. He is currently seeking bids and input about the exterior exposed wood and deterioration, roof repairs and gutter replacement. The costs will be covered by a current warrant article. Dr. Dwight reported that the fifth grade 1:World iPad initiative is going well. Jim O'Shea will meet with the sixth grade team to see how best to bridge the program from fifth grade over to sixth grade next year. Dr. Dwight informed the Committee that the upcoming October PD day is organized around technology with in-house presenters. The offering will be differentiated by knowledge level and interest. Dr. Dwight extended an invitation to School Committee members to attend any of the one hour sessions. Dr. Dwight handed out Vision Statements and Core Value Statements which were also handed out to all faculty and staff members to be shared with students and displayed in classroom or office setting. SusanMary Redinger would like to have the Vision Statement read before every meeting and also have it written at the top of each School Committee agenda. Dr. Dwight informed the Committee that recycling has been revived at The Bromfield School and signage and awareness is being displayed around the school.

Liaison & Subcommittee Reports

Maureen Babcock reported that elementary was proactive this year in having the students and parents sign off on the bus pledge. She is hoping that this step will lead to a wonderful smooth bus experience this year.

Kirsten Wright reported that the cable committee will be meeting on September 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the cable room at Bromfield. Bromfield School Council will be meeting on September 16th at 3:00 at Bromfield.

Bob Sullebarger reported that HEAC is collecting bids on three projects and will be ready to come to discuss the projects with the School Committee at their second October meeting. The next HEAC meeting is Wednesday at the Center on the Common.

SusanMary Redinger reported on the CPIC meeting held last week. Deb Ricci will serve as President. Each CPIC member was given a liaison assignment to help guide the process as well as determine and identify any capital item with a value over \$500,000. SusanMary will meet with Linda and Patty as the Budget Subcommittee to identify any big ticket items as well as proceeding to update the five year capital plan. CPIC will then meet with town boards to evaluate and assign priorities to identified capital items. SusanMary Redinger reported that the Master Plan Steering Committee working papers are coming in and she and Joe Hutchinson will be presenting the draft to the School Committee for feedback in the near future.

Finance Director

Lorraine Leonard distributed the School End of Year Expenditure Summary for FY14 which needed signatures of the School Committee Chair, Superintendent, and School Business Manager.

Kirsten Wright made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to move that we accept the expenditure summary (end of year report) for FY14 as presented.

VOTE 3/0

Lorraine Leonard presented the first financial report of the FY15 school year which is basically at zero surplus or deficit at this point. She will be updating Circuit Breaker, the CASE assessment and Special Education updates on her next report. Lorraine Leonard will also report on outside funds on a quarterly basis.

BHRA Contract Discussion

Dr. Dwight gave background on the Bare Hill Rowing program with regard to accomplishments of the program and the history behind the contract and what lead to the recommended modifications to the current contract. After consulting with legal counsel there are seven suggested amendments to the contract to help meet the needs of all parties. Previously the schools did not have a role and this contract will take care of the schools liability.

Bob Sullebarger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to authorize Linda Dwight to sign the License Agreement between the Town of Harvard and Bare Hill Rowing Association on behalf of the School Committee.

VOTE 3/0

School Committee Outcomes/Goal Review

The Committee reviewed 5 draft goals/outcomes for the 2014/2015 school year including measurement of goals and timelines. Some adjustments were made to timeline and measurements. SusanMary and Linda will make the corrections and bring to the next meeting. Members were asked to identify at the next meeting which goal/subcommittee they would be interested in working on.

Bob Sullebarger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to move we approve the joint School Committee/Superintendent goals for 2014/2015 as amended.

VOTE 3/0

Personnel Spreadsheet

Dr. Dwight presented the latest changes to the personnel spreadsheet currently showing a surplus of \$22,229.

Bus Ridership Update

Dr. Dwight and the Committee reviewed the bus ridership and will update again on September 27th. SusanMary Redinger asked that we track average ridership for the past 5 years and report back.

Plan for Student Meeting

The Committee adopted Policy JIB which requires the School Committee to meet at least once every other month, during the months school is in session with the Student Advisory Committee, which in accordance with state law, shall be composed of at least five high school students elected by the high school student body. The Committee asked that Jim O'Shea, Linda Dwight and Patty Wenger meet to work out how this policy will be implemented.

Future Agenda Items

Capital Plan and Schedule
Technology Update
Personnel Spreadsheet
FY15 Budget Update
Special Education Audit
Cable Club Presentation
Declining Enrollment
HES Parking Lot Update
School Committee meeting at Devens

Commentary

Bob Sullebarger - Happy about the rowing contract – great asset to the town!

Maureen Babcock – great turn out of the rowing group and appreciates their passion and hard work to make the program available to students!

Kirsten Wright – Ditto Bob and Maureen with regard to rowing and learned a lot tonight about rowing which was great and appreciate them coming in!

Linda Dwight – pointed out that it was great for moral to have the Secretary of State visit our district, he sent a thank you card thanking everyone. It was a really great way to get everyone focused on why we are in education and very student focused. There is an article in the Yankee Magazine about Chef Paul!

Kirsten Wright made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.
VOTE 3/0

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Zadroga
Recording Secretary