School Committee Minutes

Upper Town Hall

Monday, September 10, 2018

6:15 p.m.

Members attending: Mary Traphagen, SusanMary Redinger, John Ruark, Shannon Molloy, Jon Green, Maureen Babcock, and Linda Dwight. Absent: None

Mary Traphagen called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Chloe Cushing read the Vision Statement.

**Public Commentary –** Kerra Huchowski, Shaker Road, Harvard, MA – Concerns and suggestions for the goals and objectives of the Special Education Department.

Public Comment was made from the following residents concerning the PTO’s claim that they were misrepresented by a member of the School Committee:

Laura Hunt, Stow Road, Stu Sklar, Scott Road, Meg Bagdonas, South Shaker Road, Jennifer Slavin, Depot Road, Jennifer Finch, Codmann Hill Road, Laura Thomas, Candleberry Road, Sharlene Cronin, Bolton Road.

**Student Update**

Chloe Cushing – reported that everyone is getting back into the swing of school. Seniors took their ACT’s on Saturday, fall sports are doing well, sixth graders seem to be enjoying the school, MacBook’s were handed out and the new student parking system seems to be working well.

**Field Trip Approval**

Julie Horton attending the meeting to seek approval for the ninth grade’s annual trip to Washington, DC from March 13 to March 16, 2019.

***SusanMary Redinger made the motion and John Ruark seconded to approve the Washington, DC trip for ninth graders as presented.***

***VOTE 5/0***

**District Improvement Plan**

Dr. Dwight presented the goals and measures for year two of the District Improvement Plan. For each of the following Core Values the goal and measure were defined –

Student Achievement (technology integration, data informed instruction, differentiated instruction).

Personal Growth (health/wellness focus, leadership and service opportunities, attendance).

Partnership (colleges and universities, local connections).

Resources (Hildreth Elementary Building Project, Bromfield Renovations).

School Climate (inclusion and digital citizenship).

**Vote to Approve the School Committee/Superintendent Goals for 2018/2019**

The Committee reviewed the Joint School Committee/Superintendent Goals for the 2018/2019 school year. The Committee will focus on two goals:

Goal 1: HES Building Project outcome –to successfully complete the Design Development stage with estimates that are within budget; a plan has been developed for the safe construction of the building; and community participation has been encouraged through regular communication and opportunities for financial contributions.

Goal 2: Bromfield House outcome – The School Committee has partnered with the Select Board and the Bromfield Trustees in determining the ultimate disposition of the Bromfield House and property.

***John Ruark made the motion and Jon Green seconded to approve the School Committee Superintendent Goals for the 2018/2019 school year as presented.***

***VOTE 5/0***

**Superintendent Report**

\*The SBC met and voted on the Design submission to the MSBA.

\*The Historical Commission approved the plan for the new building.

\*Worked with members of the HAA and Tim Bragan on the relocation of the softball field.

\*Planned and advertised a public forum on September 19th at 7 PM in the Bromfield SchoolLibrary.

\*Grant submitted to Harvard Schools Trust for $15,000 to partner with HCTV to enhance programs for students at the HCTV studio. Students would use the cable studio, equipment and staff to support learning.

\*Science lab furniture will arrive this week and installation will be done by Thursday.

\*Internal work on the sixth-grade classrooms and the roof drain has been completed.

Jon Snyer sent out bids for the HES roof project. The bid he is more confident with is the submission by CentiMark for $23,000. He would like to request consideration for this work to be completed outside of the regular budget process as leaking continues to be an on-going problem at HES.

\*Bus ridership is down from last year; bus fees have been collected to meet the budget off-set.

\*Public forum about the new elementary school – September 19th at 7 PM (TBS Library)

\*Bromfield Open House – September 20th at 6:30 PM

**Vote to Appoint the Part Time School Business Manager**

Dr. Dwight presented the resume of Aziz Aghayev with the recommendation to hire Mr. Aghayev as the next School Business Manager for the Harvard Public Schools. Mr. Aghayev will bring with him many skills to update the budget process. The salary of $550 per day with the possibility of an increase to $575 after a 3-month review.

***SusanMary Redinger made the motion and John Ruark seconded to approve Dr. Dwight to hire Aziz Aghayev as the School Business Manager.***

***VOTE 5/0***

**Vote to Approve the Superintendent Goals for 2018-2019**

Dr. Dwight presented her goals for the 2018-2019 school year.

Goal #1 – Innovation – To evaluate our advances in innovative teaching and learning for Harvard teachers and students.

Goal #2 – New School – To lead the School Building Committee successfully through the Design Development.

***SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Jon Green seconded to approve the Superintendent Goals for 2018/2019 as amended.***

***VOTE 5/0***

**Policy Review**

The Policy Subcommittee tabled the review of policy until the next meeting and explained that they will be instituting a change in the way policy amendments are presented at meetings in order to make policy review more efficient.

**Share the Dates for Student Advisory Meetings and Generate Topics**

Mary Traphagen will be talking with Dr. Horton to determine the dates that are best for the School Committee to meet with the Student Advisory Group.

Student Parking

Attendance Policy

How did the Start of School go?

Capital Areas at Bromfield that need to be addressed (facilities)

**School Committee Date Changes for October and November**

There are meetings in October and November that conflict with holidays (Columbus Day and Veterans Day). The Committee agreed to move both October meetings to October 15th and October 29th. The November 12th meeting (Veterans Day) will be changed to Tuesday, November 13th.

***SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Shannon Molloy seconded to move the October 8th meeting to October 15, the October 22nd meeting to the October 29th and the November 12th meeting to November 13th.***

***VOTE 5/0***

**Approval of Minutes**

***SusanMary Redinger made the motion and John Ruark seconded to approve the minutes for August 27th meeting as amended.***

***VOTE 5/0***

**Topics for next meeting**

Sabbatical request

Policy

Goals

DEAC survey

**Liaison/Sub-Committee Reports**

John Ruark – No report.

Shannon Molloy - HES Council meeting set for September 25th pending council attendance.

Jon Green – No report.

Mary Traphagen - TBS School Council has not met.

SusanMary Redinger – The Capital Committee reported that the Library roof is being pulled for consideration and will not be moving forward. CPIC is moving forward with rating the trash compactor.

Maureen Babcock – Grant Road will be starting on next phase of construction. Will keep you posted. Updated the Committee on the progress of Eagle Scout projects in process by Harvard, Troop 1 Boy Scouts.

**Open to Interested Citizens and School Committee Commentary** - None

John Hunt Stow Road - legal opinion on PTO/School Committee issue.

John Ruark – indicated that the School Committee is a group of volunteers who are operating from a position of good intent. He does not believe that anyone is trying to undermine the good will of the PTO. The PTO, Harvard Schools Trust, Sports Boosters and related groups need our help. Become members and lend your support.

Jon Green – Applauds the innovation to support the enrichment programs at the cable studio with the submission of the grant to Harvard Schools Trust.

Sharlene Cronin, Bolton Road – Excited about the conversation around digital citizenship.

**Adjournment**

***SusanMary Redinger made the motion and John Ruark seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m.***

***VOTE 5/0***

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Zadroga