

School Committee Meeting Minutes
Virtual Meeting
November 28, 2022
6:15 PM

Members attending: Suzanne Allen, Abigail Besse, Sharlene Cronin, and SusanMary Redinger.

Others in attendance: Linda Dwight, Caitlin Lelievre, and Ingrid Nilsson.

Ms. Besse called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

Vision Statement:

Asha Khurana read the vision statement.

Public Commentary:

None.

Student Update:

Asha Khurana reported that having no homework over Thanksgiving Break was a big success. Additionally, the boys' soccer team won the state championship and tryouts for winter sports will be starting soon. The school plays took place over the weekend and were well attended. Winter concerts will be held the week of December 5th.

Review HES School Improvement Plan:

Dr. Katsh-Singer gave a brief overview of the way HES's SIP is organized and then reviewed each section with the Committee. Members had opportunities to ask questions following each section of the SIP.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the SIP for Hildreth Elementary School as presented. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Move: Ms. Allen

Second: Ms. Cronin

Status: Passed

Superintendent Update:

- New Furniture Arrived: New cafeteria tables arrived at Bromfield right before the

Thanksgiving Break. There is a mixture of high top and circular tables to give students a choice of seating.

- DEIB Focused Student Forums to Begin Soon: Marisa Khurana, DEIB Coordinator, is organizing lunchtime forums with students to review the culture data from the survey given in Spring 2022. Students will have an opportunity to discuss and share ideas for improvements to the school culture.
- Fall Theater Successes: Students in the Bromfield drama programs provided entertainment to families on November 18-20. Congratulations to the students and their drama and music teachers!
- Sports Success!: Over November 18-20, students represented Bromfield at the state cross country meet and soccer finals. The girls' cross country team finished 4th and the boys' team finished 6th. The boys' soccer team won their fifth state title - a record in the league!

FY24 Proposed HPS Budget:

Dr. Dwight presented the FY24 Recommended School Budget to the Committee. Additionally, administrators provided summaries of their specific cost centers. Ingrid Nilsson discussed the Central Office budget, Patrick Harrigan discussed the Facilities budget, Rebecca Katsh-Singer discussed the Hildreth Elementary School budget, Kim Murphy and Stephen Greene discussed the Bromfield School budget, Jenn Toth discussed the Pupil Services budget, and Chris Boyle discussed the Technology budget. Committee members were given the opportunity to ask follow up questions for each cost center.

Additionally, members discussed ways to move forward with the budget while continuing to maintain the services needed for the District's students. Dr. Dwight asked that if any of the members have additional questions before the next meeting to follow up with her directly and she will come prepared with answers to the meeting on December 12th.

Grant/Club/Field Trip Approval

None.

Future Meeting Dates:

The next meeting will be held on December 12th and will be hybrid. Ms. Besse asked members to keep December 19th available in the event another meeting is necessary prior to January.

Agenda Items:

Upcoming agenda items include: FY24 budget, MCAS scores presentation, and policy. If members have any other additions, they will send them to Ms. Besse.

Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of November 14, 2022 as presented. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Move: Ms. Cronin Second: Ms. Redinger Status: Passed

School Committee Liaison and Subcommittee Reports:

Ms. Cronin shared that CPIC will plan to meet the week of December 5th and Best Practices will be meeting again soon to continue their work on the school committee self-evaluation.

Ms. Allen reported that the Policy Subcommittee continues to work on J policies and some changes to the concussion policy will require updates to the handbook. This will be presented at the next meeting on December 12th. After reviewing the J policies, the subcommittee will begin to review the I policies. The Transportation Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet this week while the Wellness group will hold off on meeting until after budget season.

Ms. Redinger discussed the wall in front of HES as that is the last project with the School Building Committee. There is a meeting scheduled for December 2nd to show the commissioners the wall with the proposed fencing. There will be a public hearing on December 7th and Ms. Redinger asked members to show their support. Additionally, the Bromfield School Council met and will focus on belonging and how to address this in the school.

Ms. Besse reported that the HES School Council will meet the week of November 28th. The report for the annual town meeting is due January 23rd and Ms. Besse asked for volunteers to work on this. Ms. Redinger volunteered. Work on the softball field continues and a resolution is still in the works for the sheds.

Public Commentary:

None.

School Committee Commentary:

None.

At 8:48 PM, members entered into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the HEA because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the school committee. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote.