



**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
BROMFIELD MEDIA CENTER - 7:00 P. M.
NOVEMBER 13, 2007**

Members attending: Virginia Justicz, Stuart Sklar, Willie Wickman, Will Verbits, and Superintendent Thomas Jefferson

Members absent: None

Willie Wickman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

The School Committee met with the Board of Selectmen to fill a School Committee vacancy due to the resignation of Jeff Shaw. Two residents, Keith Chervalls and Wade Holtzman, were present to make a brief statement of their interest in filling the vacancy. Lucy Wallace, Selectmen Chair, read a statement of interest submitted by Brian Stevens, who was on travel. After the candidates' statements of interest, the Selectmen and School Committee held a question and answer time with the two candidates present at the meeting, followed by a vote of the Selectmen and School Committee. Brian Stevens received the majority vote.

The motion was made (Verbits) and seconded (Sklar) to add New Business as an agenda item to follow the FY08 Budget. The Committee **VOTED** 4/0 to accept.

Reports from the Committee included:

- Student representatives reported boys' and girls' soccer teams are moving into the semi-finals, and the field hockey team is the league champions. The Bromfield School held a mock lockdown with successful results. The Veterans' Day luncheon and Coffee House were both a success.
- Strategic Planning Committee – The Strategic Planning Survey will be distributed this month. The survey will be available to all students and at Town Hall, Public Library and Senior Center. 21st Century Skills from the Strategic Planning materials that is a roadmap for assessment was shared with the Committee.
- Harvard Elementary School Council – A letter sent to School Committee and teachers from a former teacher was discussed with the Council. In an initial budget discussion it was suggested a Smart Board for each classroom and the possibility of Shaw Trust funds used for playgrounds updating and 2nd floor ventilation.
- Suburban Coalition – The repeal of Commonwealth income tax is in the legislature for vote to be placed on the referendum ballot. Beacon Hill Breakfast is scheduled for April 7th at 9 A.M.

- 36 • School Starting Time Study Committee – The November 27th meeting will be
37 spent finalizing the recent survey.
- 38 • Finance Committee Composition Committee – Thursday, December 5 at 7:30
39 p.m. a public input meeting will be held regarding selection process and term
40 limits for Finance Committee members.
- 41 • Special Education Task Force Committee – Using the Acton Public Schools
42 document on special education, the committee is continuing their work to develop
43 a similar document for Harvard.
- 44 • Special Education Independent Audit Subcommittee – Meeting November 19.
- 45 • Superintendent Report – The Bromfield School administration has updated the
46 newsletter sent to parents. An enrollment update was presented to the
47 Committee that will serve as a basis for staffing projections for the upcoming
48 year.
- 49 The motion was made (Verbits) and seconded (Justicz) to accept donations and gifts
50 from the Harvard Schools Trust and Harvard PTO as presented. The Committee
51 **VOTED** 4/0 to accept.
- 52 The FY08 School Budget was reviewed. The motion was made (Sklar) and seconded
53 (Verbits) to transfer \$115,535 from the elementary school, to Special Education in the
54 amount of \$69,160 and the balance to Bromfield. The Committee **VOTED** 4/0 to accept.
- 55 Following a discussion of dates and times to begin the FY09 budget process, the School
56 Committee agreed to hold budget work sessions. The work sessions will begin at 5 P.M.
57 in the Faculty Room at Bromfield on December 3 and 5.
- 58 A town-wide mailing will be prepared for distribution before the holidays.
- 59 Willie will prepare a draft of information she received at the MASC/MASS conference
60 and distribute to the Committee.
- 61 The Committee shared commentary on the recent Middle School drama, Fall Fête, the
62 MASC forum, students' interaction with Committee through Student Advisory Council,
63 and the sport teams.
- 64 The Committee signed warrants.
- 65 The motion was made (Verbits) and seconded (Justicz) to adjourn. The Committee
66 **VOTED** 4/0 (Virginia Justicz, yes; Stuart Sklar, yes; Will Verbits, yes; and Willie
67 Wickman, yes) to accept.
- 68 The meeting adjourned at 9:45 P.M.