



**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM - 7:00 P. M.
SEPTEMBER 24, 2007**

Members attending: Virginia Justicz, Jeff Shaw, Stuart Sklar (arrived 7:30 p.m.), Will Verbits, Willie Wickman, and Superintendent Thomas Jefferson

Members absent: None

Willie Wickman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

The motion was made (Verbits) and seconded (Shaw) to accept the minutes of the August 20, 2007 meeting. The Committee **VOTED** 5/0 to accept.

The motion was made (Verbits) and seconded (Shaw) to accept the minutes of the September 10, 2007 regular meeting. The Committee **VOTED** 3/0 (Jeff Shaw, yes; Will Verbits, yes; Willie Wickman, yes) to accept.

The motion was made (Shaw) and seconded (Sklar) to accept the minutes of the September 11, 2007 meeting as amended. The Committee **VOTED** 5/0 to accept.

The motion was made (Shaw) and seconded (Sklar) to accept the minutes of the September 18, 2007 regular meeting. The Committee **VOTED** 4/0 (Virginia Justicz, yes; Jeff Shaw, yes; Stuart Sklar, yes; Willie Wickman, yes) to accept.

During Open Meeting Ron Ricci, Keith Cheveralls, and Wade Holtzman addressed the citizens petition placed on the October 10, 2007 Special Town Meeting Warrant. Mr. Holtzman also addressed Special Education reimbursements to parents. Margaret Grogan shared she had contacted the Ethic Commission regarding her job reassignment.

Bromfield students reported efforts to improve guidance communication with students. The Student Advisory Council also presented a letter requesting a seat at the School Committee table (attached). Emma-Caitlin O'Rourke-Friel, SAC Chair or her alternate will be the ex-officio, nonvoting SCA member.

Reports from the Committee included:

- DEAC – It was reported residents would like to know sooner rather than later the status of the education of Devens students.
- Bromfield School Council –The School Council is working on their goals and School Improvement Plan.
- Harvard Elementary School Council – No report, the HES council is meeting next week.

- Strategic Planning Committee – Virginia and Will attended the meeting with about 15 to 20 attendees. The committee is gather data regarding internal and external trends and identifying priority goals.
- School Starting Time Study Committee – The first meeting in October will pick up where the committee left off last year.
- Finance Committee Composition Committee – The committee has been gathering comparison date of Finance Committees across the Commonwealth.
- Facilities Study Committee – The committee members reported Harvard is in the queue for a possible new school.
- Indoor Air Quality Committee – reported the maintenance plan is in full operation.
- Suburban Coalition – Stu reported he testified on senate bill 291 (to define adequate funding).
- Special Education Task Force Committee – The committee has reviewed data from Superintendents and SpEd directors across the Commonwealth.
- Special Education Independent Audit Subcommittee – Will reported the committee received and rejected the one RFP of the 23 that were sent out. The subcommittee will do a follow-up as to why the non-responders did not respond.
- Policy Subcommittee – the subcommittee is approximately half through the updates and will be starting up again to complete the project.
- SEPAC – Will and Virginia will report at the next meeting. The SEPAC first meeting will be to introduce new steering committee and accomplishments.

The revenues from School Choice and MassDevelopment were shared with the School Committee as requested by the Committee at their last meeting.

The Superintendent included the course enrollments for The Bromfield Schools. The enrollments reflect that all academic courses over 30 students and many of those over 25 students have been eliminated with the additional staffing added over the past two years.

The motion was made (Sklar) and seconded (Verbits) to approve the 07/08 Bromfield Handbook as printed. The Committee **VOTED** 5/0 to accept.

The Superintendent recommended a member of the School Committee be appointed to service on the Stipend Negotiating Committee. The motion was made (Verbits) and seconded (Sklar) to appoint Jeff Shaw the Committee representative to the Stipend Negotiating Committee. The Committee **VOTED** 4/1 (Virginia Justicz, yes; Jeff Shaw, abstained; Stuart Sklar, yes; Will Verbits, yes; Willie Wickman, yes) to accept.

The prom date has been changed from May 30 to May 23 in order to accommodate scheduling conflicts in which many students will be participating. The Superintendent recommended an adjustment in the 07/08-school calendar. The motion was made

(Shaw) and seconded (Justicz) that the May 30 early release date be changed to May 23. The Committee **VOTED** 5/0 to accept.

The Superintendent goals for 07/08 were reviewed. The Committee requested measurable outcomes be included and the goals will be voted at the next meeting.

The Motion was made (Shaw) and seconded (Justicz) to accept donations and gifts as presented. The Committee **VOTED** 5/0 to accept.

Lorraine Leonard, School Business Manager, presented the FY07 End-of-Year expenditure summary. After discussion, Willie Wickman, Chair, and Thomas Jefferson, Superintendent, signed the transmittal cover sheet.

The motion was made (Shaw) and seconded (Verbits) to adjourn. The Committee **VOTED** 5/0 (Virginia Justicz, yes; Jeff Shaw, yes; Stuart Sklar, yes; Will Verbits, yes; Willie Wickman, yes) to accept.

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 P.M.