

School Committee Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, June 22, 2009
7:00 P.M.

Members attending: Keith Cheveralls, Virginia Justicz, Stu Sklar, Patty Wenger, Piali De, Maureen Babcock, Lorraine Leonard, and Thomas Jefferson

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Minutes

Stu Sklar made a motion and Virginia Justicz seconded to approve the Minutes from the June 9, 2009 meeting as amended/
VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion. . (Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Piali De (Yes).

Student Report

None

The Committee commented on the new overhead screen donated by Rene Roy. The Town will send a thank you letter.

TBS School Improvement Plan

James O'Shea provided a PowerPoint presentation of The Bromfield School Improvement Plan for next school year. Piali De requested the Superintendent provide lists of the Strategic Plan Steering Subcommittees. The Chair asked Jim if the school had the resource allocation necessary to carry out the plan, and Jim stated they did due to flexibility in using the resources allocated. The Committee discussed how to incorporate the SIP's into the budget process. The Committee thanked Jim for the outstanding plan and requested he provide an update in November.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Piali De seconded to approve The Bromfield School Improvement Plan in its revised version.
VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion. . (Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Piali De (Yes).

Piali De made a motion and Stu Sklar seconded to approve the Harvard Elementary School Improvement Plan as presented. The Committee discussed approving the plan without measurements or school climate included.
VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion. . (Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Piali De (Yes).

School Committee Reports

Piali De informed that she had begun dialogue with the HTA.

Maureen Babcock informed that DEAC had its last meeting on Tuesday. They achieved their goal of coordinating a successful transition for the elementary students. She thanked Mary Beth Banios and her teams for their assistance in the transition process.

Stu Sklar informed that the HES School Council did not have its last meeting.

Virginia Justicz commented on the Fun Fair and thanked all involved in its success. She also informed that the Long Range Facilities Subcommittee had its first meeting which began the general discussion and assigned tasks to members.

Stu Sklar thanked Jim O'Shea and Scott Hoffman for their efforts with the Fun Fair and allowing usage of The Bromfield School gym.

Patty Wenger informed that the next Long Range Facilities meeting will be held in September and HEAC is scheduled to meet Wednesday evening.

Keith Cheveralls informed the Committee of the joint BOS/SC meeting held this morning to brainstorm ideas for the Getty Land. He informed that this was a time sensitive agenda item and asked the Committee to be forward thinking as to school facility requirements. The Chair further advised the Committee of a problem with the email system. He requested the Superintendent give his administration summer reading of the new policies that were adopted.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Jefferson informed the Committee that finalists were selected for all open positions. He also reported that the budget was still on track. He and Lorraine Leonard had a conference call with DESE today regarding the circuit breaker offset which will be approximately equal to the IDEA ARRA funds. He thanked all involved with the Fun Fair.

Old Business

Proposed Meeting Schedule for 2009-10

The Committee reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for 2009-10. Upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, they agreed to reverse the dates of the Business and Curriculum meeting in September and October.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Piali De seconded to approved the 0910 School Committee Meeting Schedule as amended with the option to add more business meetings as necessary.

VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion. . (Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Piali De (Yes).

0809 School Committee Goals

The Committee reviewed and ranked itself on their 0809 Goals.

Dr. Jefferson provided an update on the Shirley School at Devens. He recommended partial occupancy for the Fall of 2010 with a Pre-K program. This will require a revised amendment to the Contract as well as approval at a Special Town Meeting.

0910 Goals

The Committee discussed the format for preparing its 0910 goals. Virginia Justicz recommended using a facilitator. The Chair requested members send their carryover 0809 goals to Virginia who will compile them into a working document version for the next meeting. Dr. Jefferson will also include recommendations per his revised District Report.

New Business

School Business Manager – Operating Procedures Review

Lorraine Leonard provided a summary of operating procedures for financial procedures, employee benefit issues and contracts. The School Business Manager suggested the Committee adopt a policy relative to contract retention practices.

Future Agenda Items

Future Agenda Items include 2009-10 Goals, land use and acquisition, HES School Council – Climate (Patty Wenger will invite and advise), Energy Advisory with Brian Smith (Patty Wenger will invite and advise), and updated enrollment figures were requested for the July 9th meeting.

Gifts

The following gifts were offered:

1. Anonymous - \$1,000.00 – Bromfield Invent Team
2. Bromfield Athletic Club - \$695.00 – Weight Room Equipment
3. PTO - \$600.00 – HES Field Day
4. PTO - \$349.39 – HES Scientist Day

VOTED Virginia Justicz made the motion and Stu Sklar seconded to accept the gifts. (5/0) to accept the motion. . (Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes) Patty Wenger (Yes), Piali De (Yes).

The Committee asked that a thank you letters be sent.

Executive Session

Keith Cheveralls made a motion and Stu Sklar seconded that the School Committee enter into executive session, as authorized by Chapter 39, Section 23B of the Massachusetts General Laws, at a meeting for which 48 hours notice has been given, for the purpose of discussing:

1. Strategy with regard to grievance procedures under a collective bargaining agreement.

Following the executive session, the Committee will reconvene into open session, for the sole purpose of adjourning.

ROLL CALL

VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion. . (Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Virginia Justicz (Yes), Stu Sklar (Yes), Patty Wenger (Yes), Piali De (Yes).

Minutes submitted,

Jackie Smith
Recording Secretary