

School Committee Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, November 8, 2010
7:00 pm.

Members attending: Keith Cheveralls, Virginia Justicz, Piali De, Patty Wenger, Kirsten Wright, Sue Leip, Lorraine Leonard and Thomas Jefferson

Keith Cheveralls called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Student Report

Gavin Arnold reported that the Student Council met with administration to discuss the closing of the school library during 3rd period. The administration is looking at possible solutions. Nick George gave a sports update that the boy and girls Soccer teams as well as the Field Hockey team were playing in the district playoffs. Molly O'Rourke Friel reported the Bromfield Review would be hosting a Cider House on Wednesday at 6 p.m. and would be displaying student art work. The School Council will be meeting tomorrow at 3:00 in the teacher's lounge and students have been asked to attend or send a written statement about their concerns with the graduation date.

Liaison and subcommittee reports

Patty Wenger reported that the HES School Council met and went over the School Improvement Plan and budget. The Calendar Subcommittee is collecting responses and will report at the November 22nd meeting. Patty reported that she attended the MASS/MASC and felt that it was very interactive and informative.

Keith Cheveralls presented a policy tracking tool which will enable all policy instruments to be displayed under one umbrella. Keith will be conducting a review of the district web site and will be sitting down with Martha Brooks to discuss design ideas.

Virginia Justicz reported that the NESDEC is underway, meeting with people and collecting data.

Sue Leip filled in for Maureen Babcock as the DEAC rep – Sue Leip serves on Long Range Planning Subcommittee.

Superintendent Report

Thomas Jefferson reported that he has received a handful of applications for the HES principal position. There is a forum scheduled for November 16th at HES for parents and community members to attend or send comments on the characteristics they would like to see in the new principal. Christine Reale has organized a Veterans Day program to be held on Wednesday. Sixteen local Veterans will be in attendance.

Global Awareness Club

Grace Tuttle and Eve Karon presented their plan and hopes for the Global Awareness Club which will bring awareness of other cultures and crises to The Bromfield School.

Montachusett Regional Vocation School

Sue Tokay, Harvard's representative to the Monty Tech school committee gave a thorough overview of Monty Tech and the vocational school model.

Curriculum and Instruction Leadership Sub Committee

Kirsten Wright updated the committee on the process used to come up with an Instruction Leadership model at HES. The subcommittee has looked over survey data, the school improvement plan, met with administration, teachers and curriculum leaders. The model is designed to support the principal, improve student learning, empower the teachers, and provide curriculum leaders who are experts, knowledgeable in their field.

Budget FY11 Update and Discussion

Lorraine Leonard updated the committee on the budget actuals as of October 31st. Energy savings have not been factored in yet as the heating season has not started. The committee asked for an explanation of salary changes in the SPED cost center, which Lorraine will prepare for an upcoming meeting.

Budget Sub Committee – FY 12 non omnibus

Virginia Justicz presented a template to be used to project revenue and expenses through FY16. Keith Cheveralls asked that the Community Ed budget and offset contribution be looked at. In addition, take a robust look at Devens projections and Choice dependency. The committee will be reviewing the FY12 budget December 6th and December 9th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Policy

Brian Smith from the Energy Advisory Committee talked through the new proposed Energy policy. The policy as amended will be available for second reading at the November 15th meeting.

Piali De made a motion and Virginia Justicz seconded to approve Policy HB – Negotiations Legal Status. VOTED (4/0) to accept the motion. Keith Cheveralls recused from the vote.

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to approve Policy HF – School Committee Negotiating Agents. VOTED (4/0) to accept the motion. Keith Cheveralls recused from the vote.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Piali De seconded to approve as amended Policy FA – Facilities Development goals VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion.

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to approve as amended Policy FB – Facilities Planning VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion.

Policy FEB – Selection of Architect will be reviewed by the Long Range Planning Subcommittee and deferred to a later date.

Keith Cheveralls made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to adjourn at 10:35 p.m. VOTED (5/0) to accept the motion.

Mary Zadroga
Recording Secretary